



The Ancient Magus' Bride

3

Story & Art by
KORE YAMAZAKI

The Ancient Magus' Bride





MY MASTER
TOLD ME...

ABOUT A
MAGE.

SOMEONE
WHO COULD
HAVE WALKED
OUT OF A
FAIRY TALE.

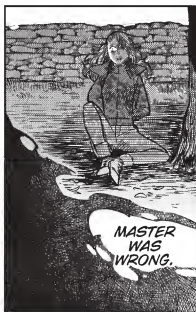


AN
INCOMPLETE
THING--
A BEAST
THAT ENJOYED
PLAYING
AT BEING
HUMAN.

SOMEONE
WHO MIGHT
HELP OR
HARM, AS
THE MOOD
TOOK HIM.



THERE'S
NOTHING
"INCOMPLETE"
ABOUT THAT.



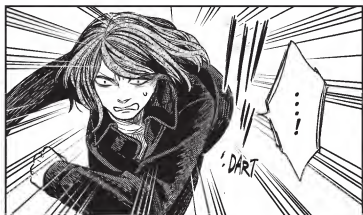
MASTER
WAS
WRONG.

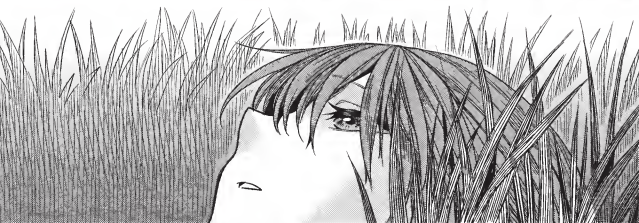
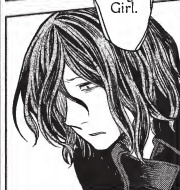


THAT
THING
IS ALL
MONSTER.

IT COULD
NEVER
EVER BE
HUMAN.

Chapter 11: Seeing is believing.

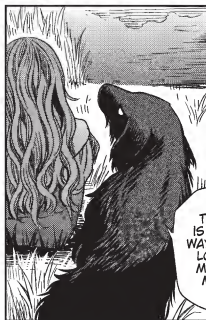






WHERE
AM I?

DID I GET
SUCKED
INTO
SOMEONE'S
MEMORIES
AGAIN, LIKE
AT THE
LAKE?
BUT
WHOSE
...?



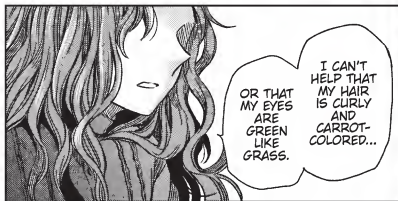
THIS
IS THE
WAY THE
LORD
MADE
ME.



THAT'S
HIS
VOICE.

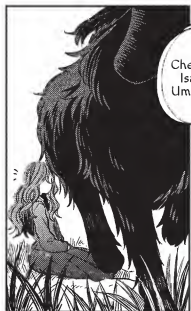


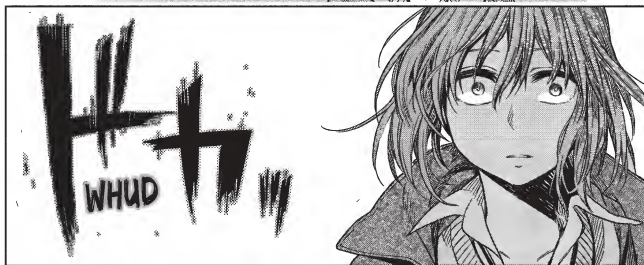
Isabel,
were they
picking
on you
again?

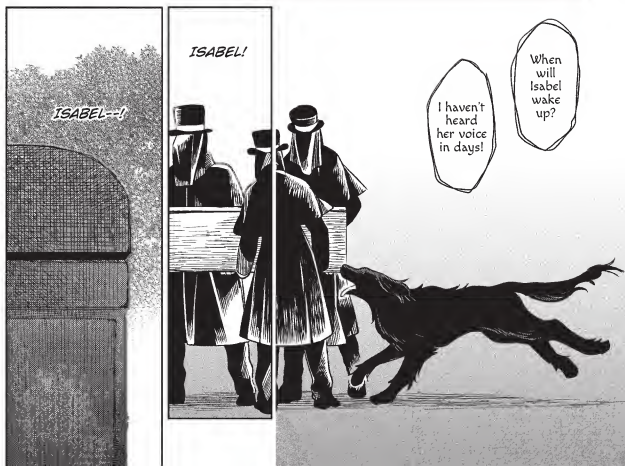


I CAN'T
HELP THAT
MY HAIR
IS CURLY
AND
CARROT-
COLORED...
OR THAT
MY EYES
ARE
GREEN
LIKE
GRASS.











I'm
going
to wait
here.

No! No,
Father...!



IT'S
TIME
YOU
CAME
HOME.



ULYSSE,
ISABEL IS
GONE. SHE
WON'T BE
COMING
HOME.

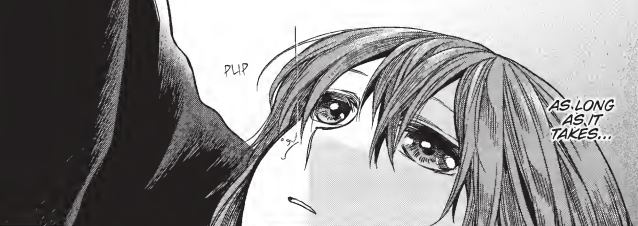
No.
She's
asleep,
that's
all.



I'll
wait...

I'll wait
for her.

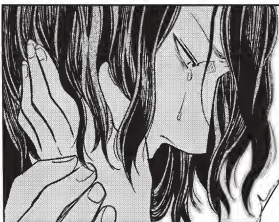
She'll be
so lonely
if no one's
here when
she wakes
up.



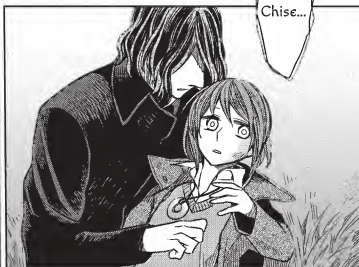


I'M
SORRY I
MUCKED
UP YOUR
EXPERIMENT,
OKAY?

WHAT'RE
YOU
GETTING
SO
ANGRY
FOR?



Chise...



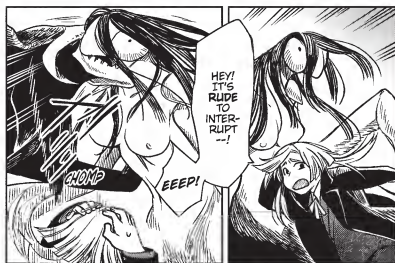
GO GET A
NEW ONE
IF YOU
HAVE TO.
NO BIG
DEAL...

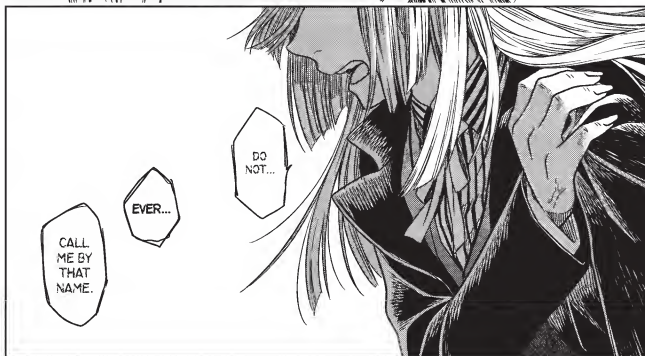
I THOUGHT
THEY WERE
PRACTICAL-
LY INSECTS
TO YOU.

BUT ONE
HUMAN'S
AS GOOD
AS ANO-
THER.



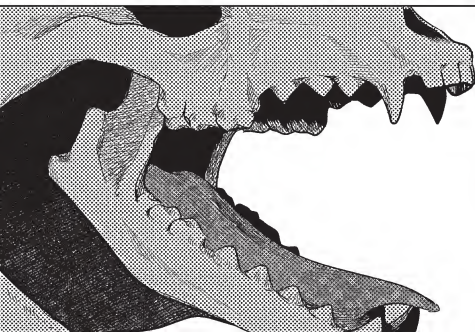
HIM...?!



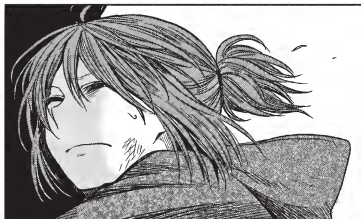




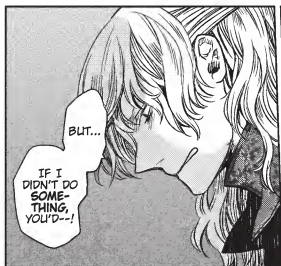
YOU
REEKING
MONSTER IN
YOUR CLOAK
OF HUMAN
FLESH--

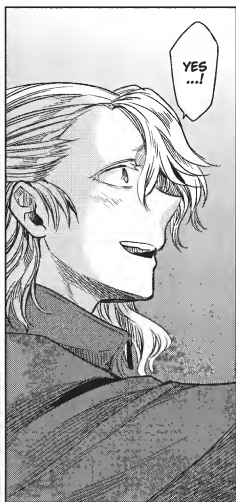


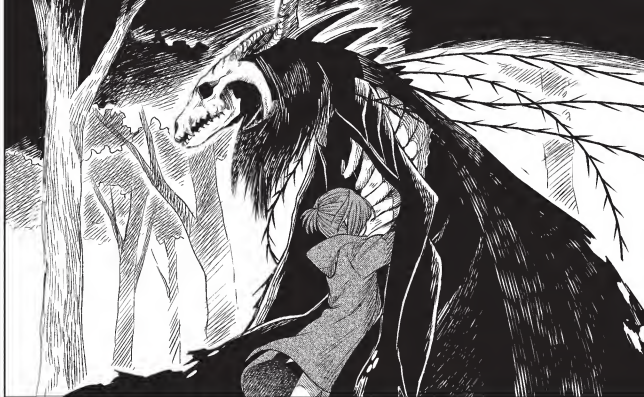
ELIAS!!















IF I
SCRATCHED
THE
DOOR-
FRAME....

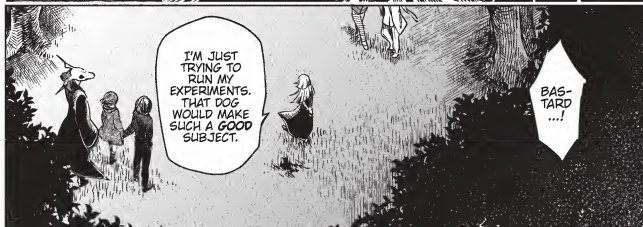
IN-
DEED.



YOU'RE SO
TALL RIGHT
NOW THAT
YOU'D HAVE
TROUBLE
GETTING
THROUGH
THE FRONT
DOOR.

YOUR
USUAL
LOOK IS
MORE
CONVE-
NIENT.







BECAUSE
IT'S
INTEREST-
ING, OF
COURSE!



I SURE
AM
UNLUCKY.
HUH?

I
COULDN'T
GET THE
BLIGHT
AT THAT
LAKE,
EITHER.

WHY
HAVE
THINGS
BEEN
GOING
WRONG?

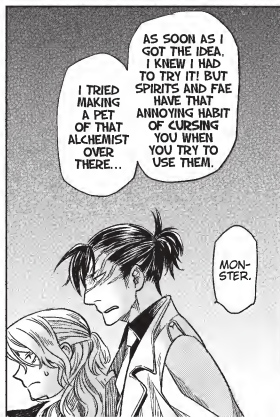


WHY?



TO NOT
TRESPASS
ON EACH
OTHER'S
TURF. SO
WHY PURSUE
THAT FAE
DOG?

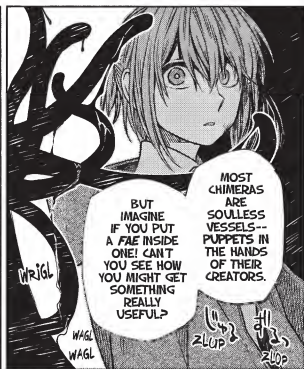
MAGES AND
ALCHEMISTS
HAVE AN
UNSPOKEN
AGREE-
MENT...



I TRIED
MAKING
A PET
OF THAT
ALCHEMIST
OVER
THERE...

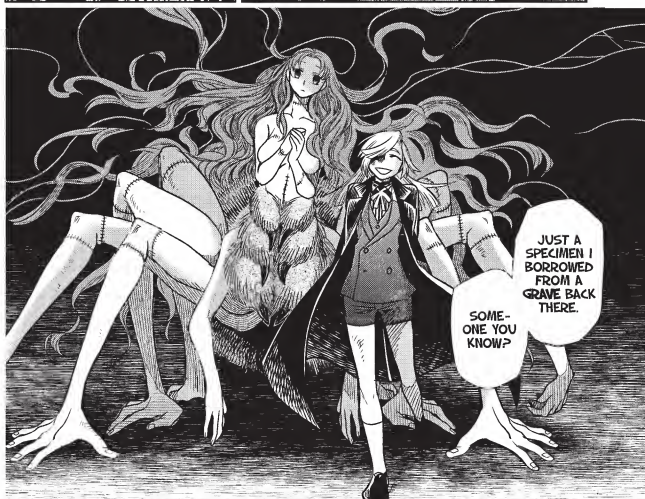
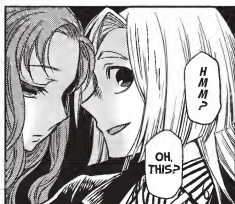
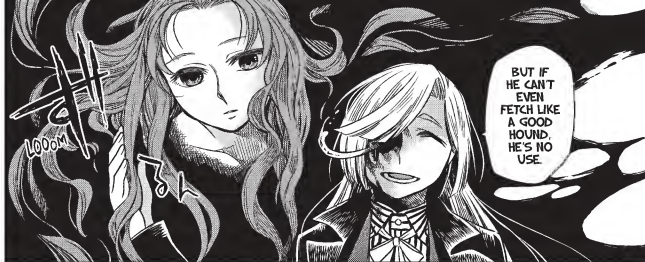
AS SOON AS I
GOT THE IDEA.
I KNEW I HAD
TO TRY IT! BUT
SPIRITS AND FAE
HAVE THAT
ANNOYING HABIT
OF CURSING
YOU WHEN
YOU TRY TO
USE THEM.

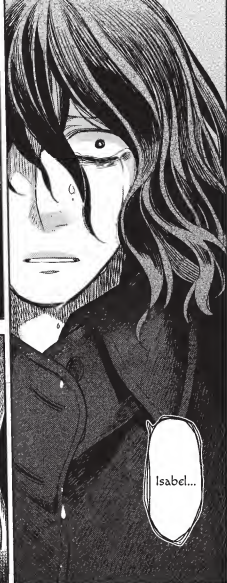
MON-
STER.

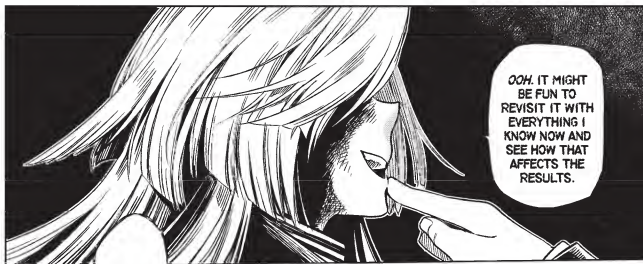


BUT
IMAGINE
IF YOU PUT
A FAE INSIDE
ONE! CAN'T
YOU SEE HOW
YOU MIGHT GET
SOMETHING
REALLY
USEFUL?

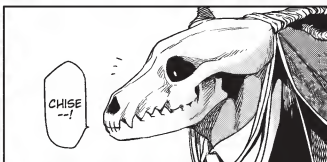
MOST
CHIMERAS
ARE
SOULLESS
VESSELS--
PUPPETS IN
THE HANDS OF
THEIR
CREATORS.

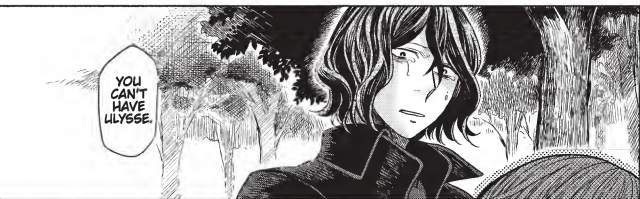






THINK I SHOULD?

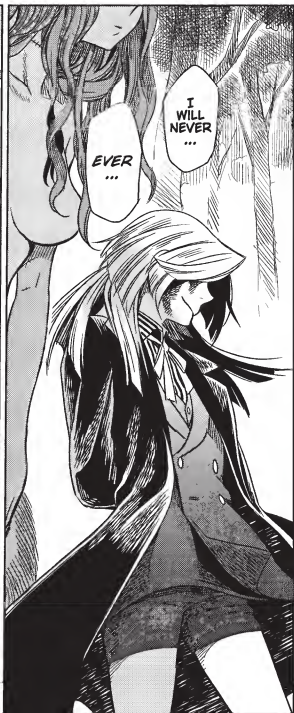




YOU
CAN'T
HAVE
ULYSSE.

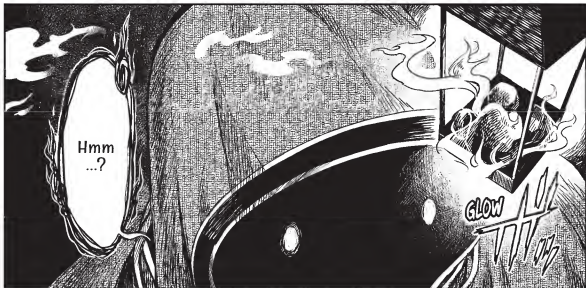


LET
YOU
HAVE
HIM.



EVER
...

I
WILL
NEVER
...





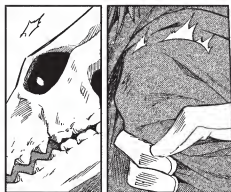
Chapter 12: Let sleeping dogs lie.

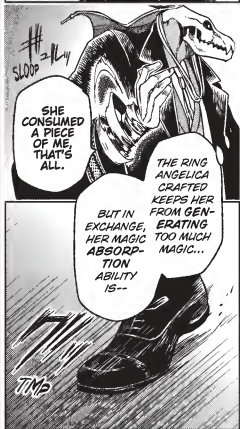
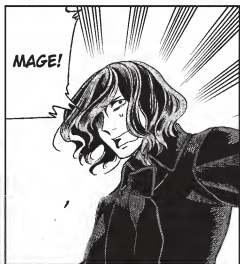


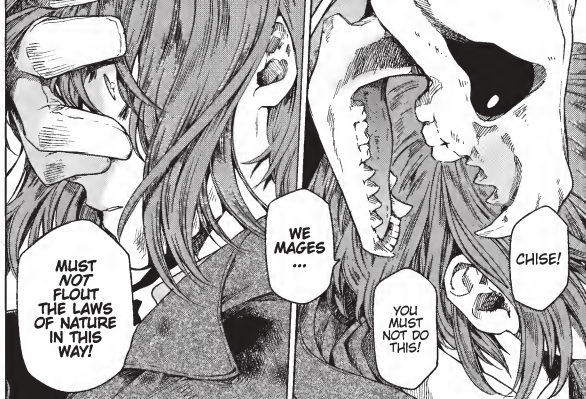
Chapter 12: Let sleeping dogs lie.

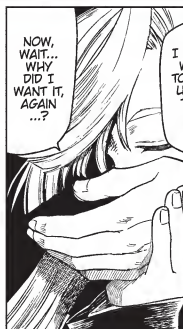




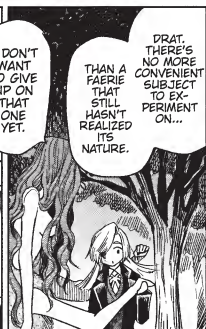








NOW,
WAIT...
WHY
DID I
WANT IT,
AGAIN
...?



I DON'T
WANT
TO GIVE
UP ON
THAT
ONE
YET.

THAN A
FAERIE
THAT
STILL
HASN'T
REALIZED
ITS
NATURE.

DRAT,
THERE'S
NO MORE
CONVENIENT
SUBJECT
TO EX-
PERIMENT
ON...



THE
FAERIE
CHANT FOR
RETURNING
HOME?
WELL
PLAYED.

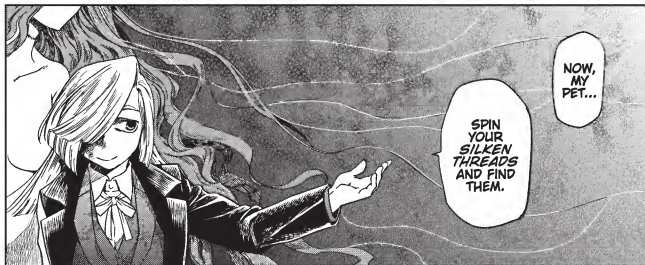


WELL,
WHO
CARES
WHY?

WHAT
DO I
NEED
ONE
FOR?

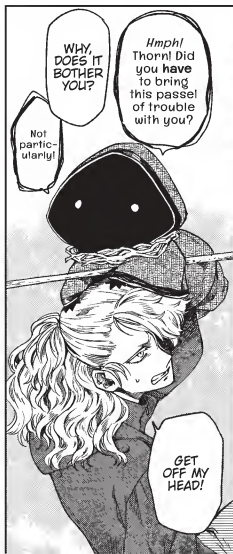
BUT
WHY
DID I
WANT TO
MAKE A
CHIMERA?

TO
MAKE A
CHIMERA
...?



NOW,
MY
PET...

SPIN
YOUR
SILKEN
THREADS
AND FIND
THEM.

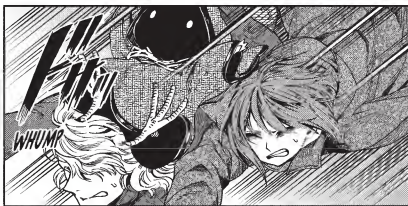


WHY,
DOES IT
BOTHER
YOU?

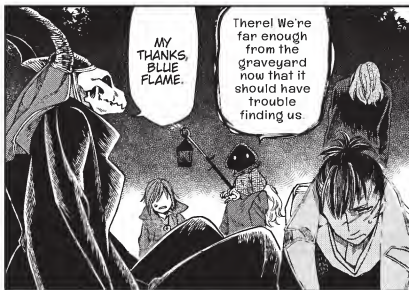
Hmph!
Thorn! Did
you have
to bring
this passel
of trouble
with you?

Not
partic-
ularly!

GET
OFF MY
HEAD!

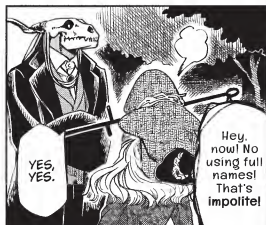


WHUMP!



MY
THANKS,
BLUE
FLAME.

There! We're
far enough
from the
graveyard
now that it
should have
trouble
finding us.





CHISE.

BE
CALM.
ALL IS
WELL.



BUT
I...

YOU
SAID
NOT
TO...

BUT...

I'M
SO
SOR-
RY!

I'M
SOR-
RY.



JUST
BE MORE
CAREFUL
NEXT TIME.
THAT'S ALL
YOU NEED
DO.

NUZZLE
NUZZLE



ELIAS...

ELIAS...!



WHEN I
SAW INTO
THE PAST
IN THE
BLIGHT IN
ULTHAR,
HE WAS
THERE.

ELIAS,
WHO IS
THAT
BOY?
WHAT
IS HE?



WHEW!



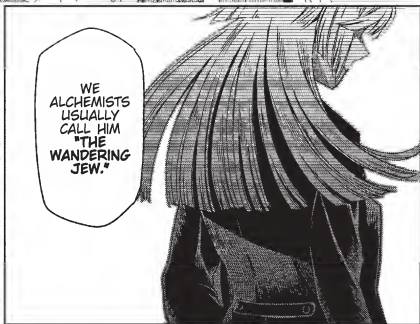
SIGH



HE HAS
MANY
NAMES.
"CARTA-
PHILLIS,"
"JOSEF"...



THE
WANDERING
JEW...?



WE
ALCHEMISTS
USUALLY
CALL HIM
"THE
WANDERING
JEW."



IT'S SAID
THAT WHEN
THE SON OF
GOD WAS BEING
TAKEN TO BE
CRUCIFIED,
CARTAPHILUS
MOCKED HIM--
AND WAS CURSED
TO ROAM THE
EARTH UNTIL
THE END
OF DAYS.

HE BECAME
AN IMMORTAL
BEAST WHO
NOW WANDERS
THE WORLD
AIMLESSLY,
ACTING ON
WHATEVER
WHIM TAKES
HIM.



NO CHOICE.
IF I'D
REFUSED, HE
PROBABLY
WOULD'VE
KILLED ME ON
THE SPOT.

BUT
WHY
WOULD
YOU DO
THAT?



AND...

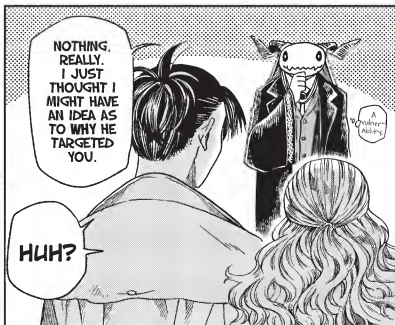
YOU
BECAME
INVOLVED
WITH HIM,
AND IT COST
YOU YOUR
ARM, YES?

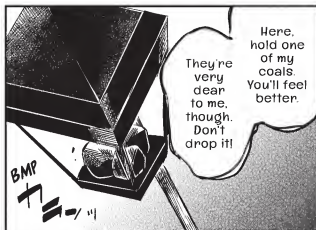


WHAT?



Get
off!!





They're
very
dear
to me,
though.
Don't
drop it!

Here,
hold one
of my
coals.
You'll feel
better.



IT'S
WARM.

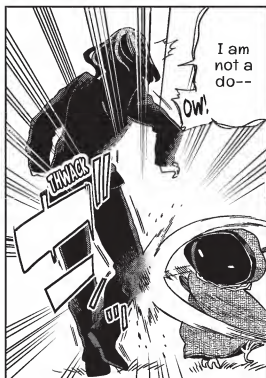


GLOW



Fragile
little
thing.
hmm?
Poor
dear.

So,
you're
the Sleigh
Beggy.
are
you?



I am
not a
do--

OW!

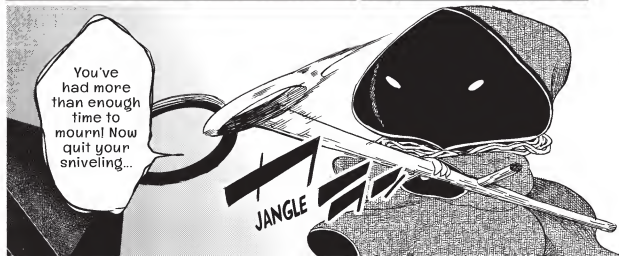
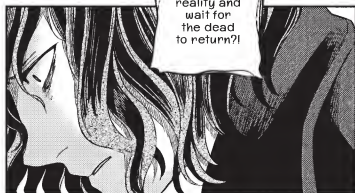
THWACK

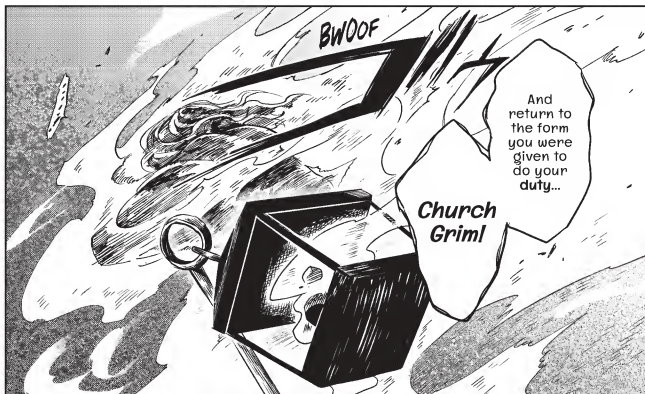
OW!



IT FEELS
LIKE
ALL THE
STRESS IS
DRAINING
OUT OF MY
BODY...

And you,
pup--do
you finally
see the
world as
it is?







*NOW I
SEE.*

That's
right.

Oh...



MY
SISTER IS
GONE.

NO MATTER
HOW LONG
I WAIT...

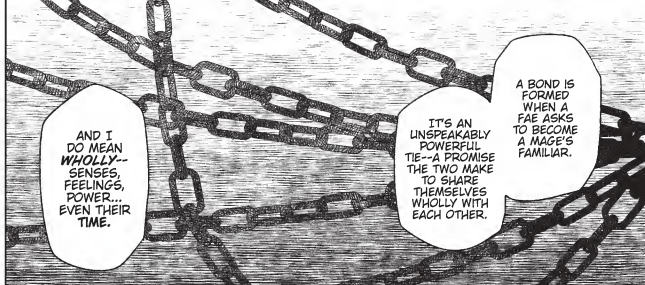
SHE IS
NEVER
COMING
BACK.

I was
unable
...

to
accompany
my Isabel
in the end.







AND I
DO MEAN
WHOLLY--
SENSES,
FEELINGS,
POWER...
EVEN THEIR
TIME.

IT'S AN
UNSPEAKABLY
POWERFUL
TIE--A PROMISE
THE TWO MAKE
TO SHARE
THEMSSELVES
WHOLLY WITH
EACH OTHER.

A BOND IS
FORMED
WHEN A
FAE ASKS
TO BECOME
A MAGE'S
FAMILIAR.



TIME?
HOW
DOES
THAT
WORK?



WHAT?!

N-NO!
I
COULDN'T
--!

It's
fine.



AND WHEN
THE HUMAN
DIES, THE
FAE DIES,
TOO.



FAE
DO NOT
EXPERIENCE
TIME AS
MORTALS
DO, AND
CANNOT
SHARE IT
WITH AN-
OTHER.

THEY
ALWAYS
WERE,
AND WILL
ALWAYS
BE.

SO,
SHOULD
THEY BIND
THEMSSELVES
TO A HUMAN,
THAT
HUMAN'S
TIME CON-
STRAINS
THEM.



I've seen
you, as
you've
seen me.



I
accept
it.



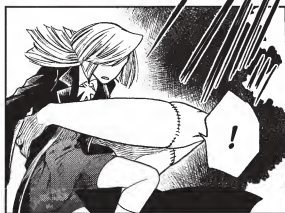
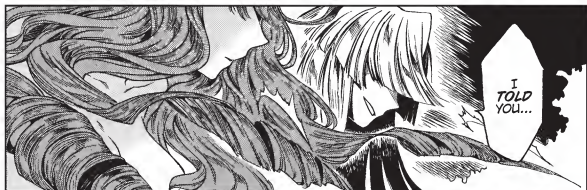
SO
THIS IS
WHERE
YOU
GOT TO!



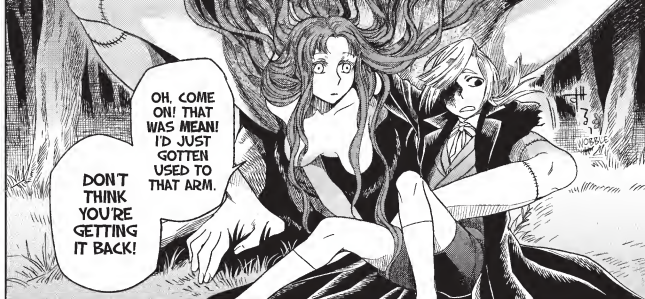
BUT
DON'T
YOU...
WANT TO KEEP
WAITING
FOR
ISABEL
...?



AHA!











MAY WE BE
BOUND BY ROOTS OF
RUSHING BLOOD.



MAY WE BE BOUND BY
THREADS OF SILVER.

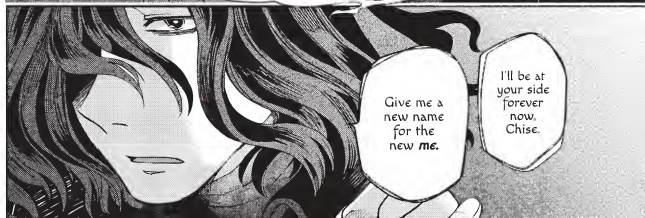


FALSE HOLLY
TO TIE US...

GREEN IVY
TO HOLD US...

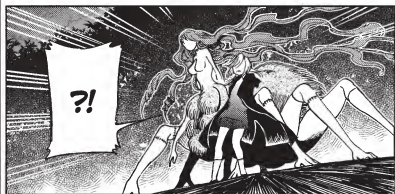
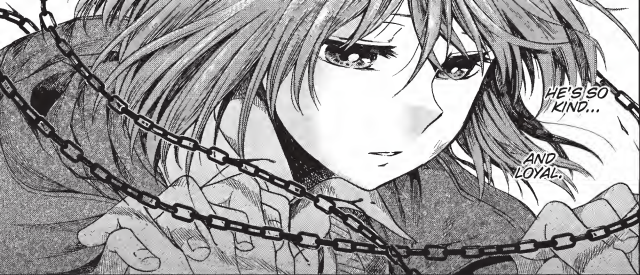
SEVEN SWITCHES
OF YEW, SEVEN
TIMES KNOTTED...

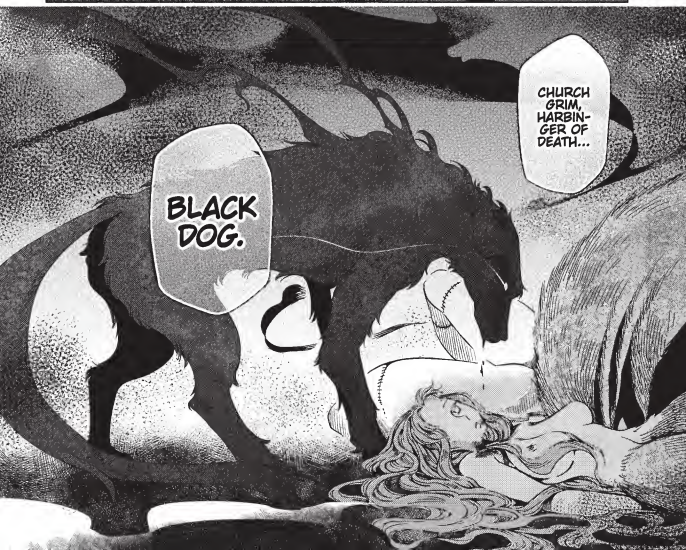
BOUND UNTIL
THE DAY OUROROBOS
LETS GO HIS TAIL.

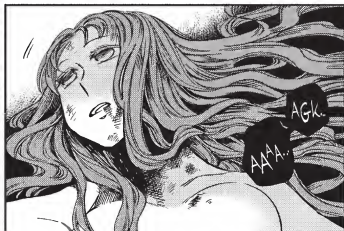
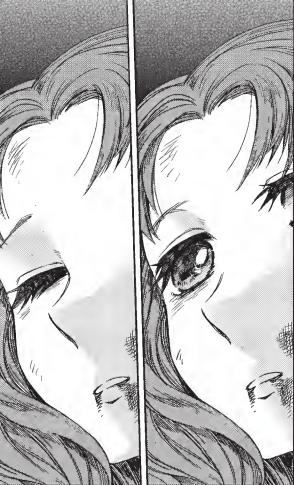


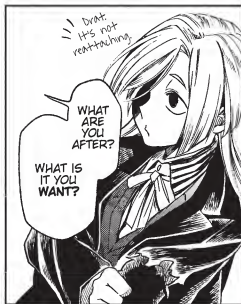
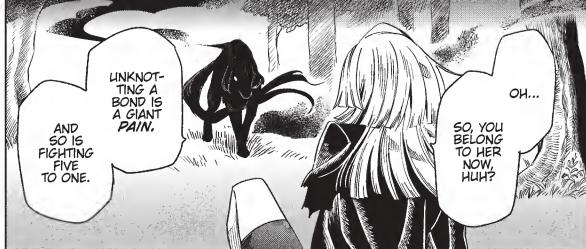
Give me a
new name
for the
new me.

I'll be at
your side
forever
now,
Chise.





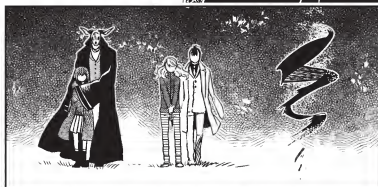
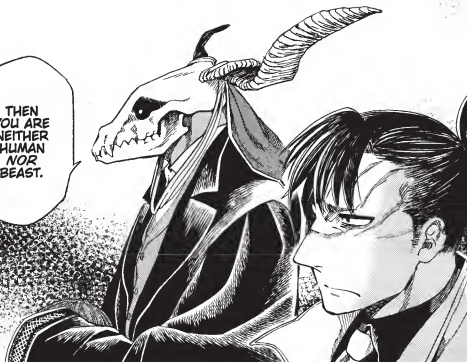






YOU'RE
NOTHING
BUT A
MONSTER
IN HUMAN
FORM,
CARTAPHILUS.

THEN
YOU ARE
NEITHER
HUMAN
NOR
BEAST.

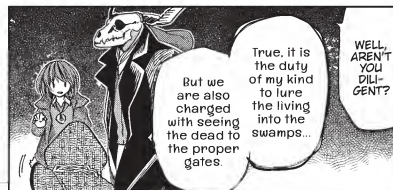






See
you
later.

But even
created
things have
souls,
in their
way.



But we
are also
charged
with seeing
the dead to
the proper
gates.

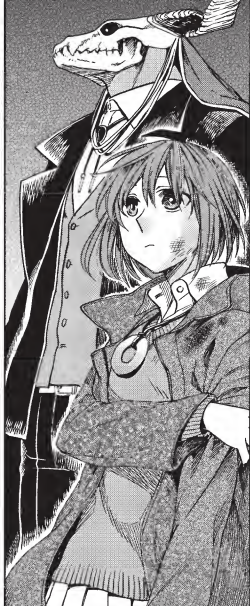
True, it is
the duty
of my kind
to lure
the living
into the
swamps...

WELL,
AREN'T
YOU
DIL-
IGENT?



This poor
thing may
have been
construct-
ed...







LET'S
GO
HOME...

RUTH.



I
insist.

Huh?
N-No,
I'm
okay.

You've
hurt.
Let me
carry
you.

Fine...



"RUTH,"
HMM?
FROM THE
HEBREW
FOR "SYM-
PATHETIC
FRIEND."

RATHER
APPROPRI-
ATE, I'D
SAY, EVEN
IF USUALLY
GIVEN TO
GIRLS.





Chapter 13: None so deaf as those who will not hear.

THAT
DAY...

AN
UNBREAKABLE
CURSE WAS
CAST ON ME.

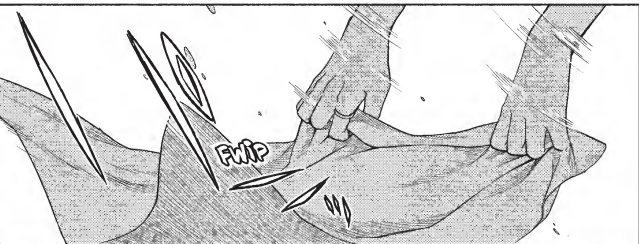


FWOoo o oo...

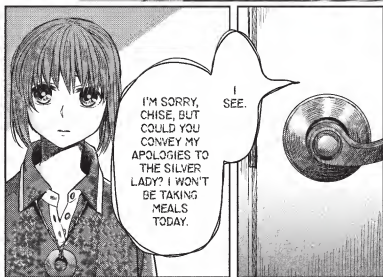
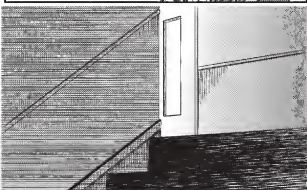
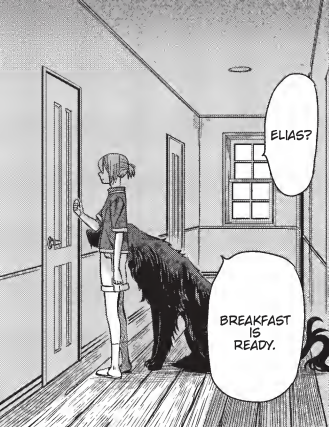


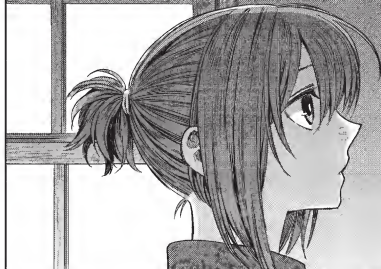
Chapter 13:

None so deaf as those who will not hear.





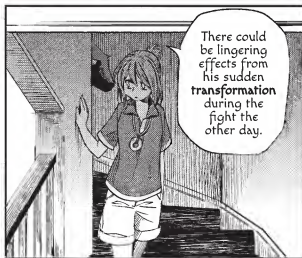




IT'S
NOTHING
TO BE
CONCERNED
ABOUT.
DON'T
WORRY.



Um?
Hmm...

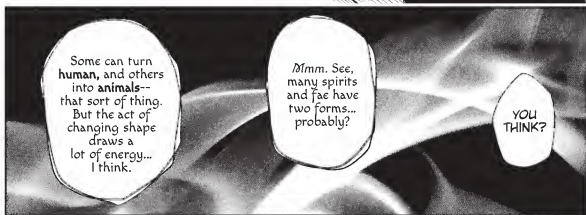


There could
be lingering
effects from
his sudden
transformation
during the
fight the
other day.



IT'S BEEN
THREE DAYS
SINCE WE GOT
HOME FROM
THE CHURCH,
AND HE WENT
STRAIGHT TO
HIS ROOM
AND HASN'T
COME
BACK OUT.

I
WONDER
WHAT'S
WRONG?

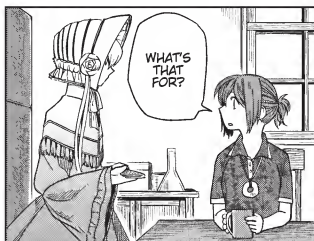


Some can turn
human, and others
into animals--
that sort of thing.
But the act of
changing shape
draws a
lot of energy...
I think.

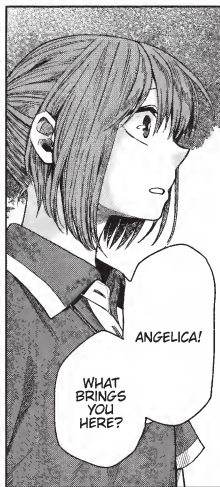
Mmm. See,
many spirits
and fae have
two forms...
probably?

YOU
THINK?

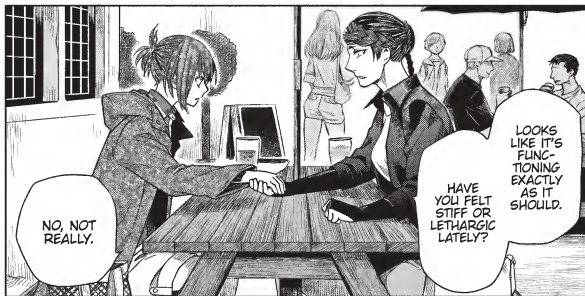




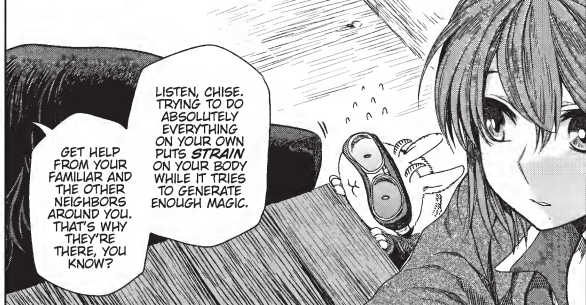












LISTEN, CHISE.
TRYING TO DO
ABSOLUTELY
EVERYTHING
ON YOUR OWN
PUTS **STRAIN**
ON YOUR BODY
WHILE IT TRIES
TO GENERATE
ENOUGH MAGIC.

GET HELP
FROM YOUR
FAMILIAR AND
THE OTHER
NEIGHBORS
AROUND YOU.
THAT'S WHY
THEY'RE
THERE, YOU
KNOW?



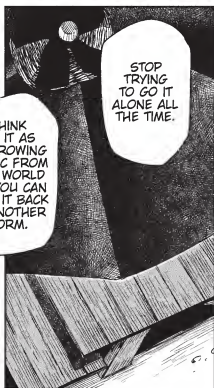
ANGELICA...

WHAT
IS MAGIC,
ANYWAY?

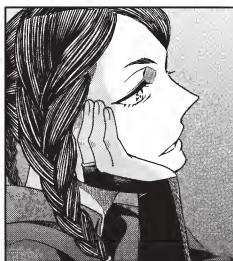


IT'S A
CYCLE,
JUST LIKE
WATER
FLOWING
FROM RIVER
TO SEA TO
SKY AND
BACK TO THE RIVER.

THINK
OF IT AS
BORROWING
MAGIC FROM
THE WORLD
SO YOU CAN
GIVE IT BACK
IN ANOTHER
FORM.

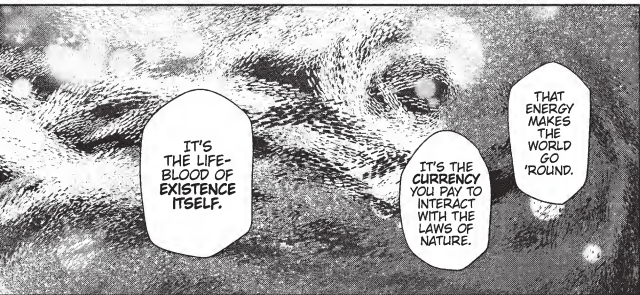


STOP
TRYING
TO GO IT
ALONE ALL
THE TIME.



WHETHER
YOU CALL IT
"MANA" OR
"KI" OR ANY
OF A BUNCH
OF OTHER
NAMES, IT'S
ALL THE SAME
ENERGY.

GOOD
QUESTION.
FOR
STARTERS,
"MAGIC" IS
JUST ONE
TERM WE
CAN USE.



IT'S
THE LIFE-
BLOOD OF
EXISTENCE
ITSELF.

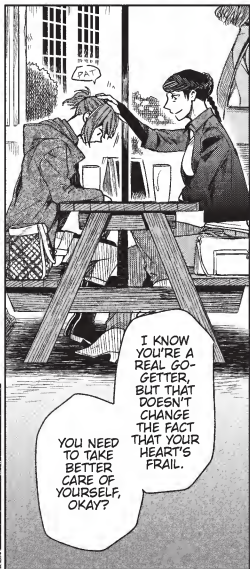
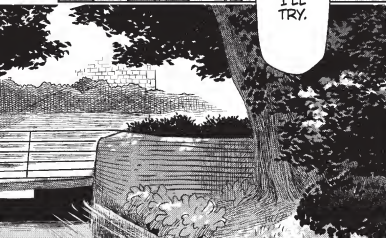
IT'S THE
CURRENCY
YOU PAY TO
INTERACT
WITH THE
LAWS OF
NATURE.

THAT
ENERGY
MAKES
THE
WORLD
GO
'ROUND.



OKAY.

I'LL
TRY.



I KNOW
YOU'RE A
REAL GO-
GETTER,
BUT THAT
DOESN'T
CHANGE
THE FACT
THAT YOUR
HEART'S
FRAIL.
YOU NEED
TO TAKE
BETTER
CARE OF
YOURSELF,
OKAY?



I...DIDN'T
HAVE A
GOOD
EXPERIENCE
WITH
SCHOOL.

SHOULDN'T
A LASS
YOUR
AGE STILL
BE A
STUDENT?



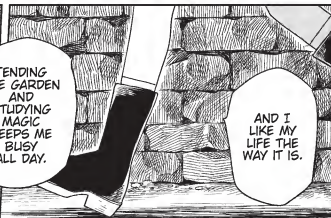
BY THE
BY...

WHAT
ABOUT
SCHOOL?



EACH
SEASON
HAS
ITS OWN
SPECIAL
CHORES
TO DO AND
LESSONS
FOR ME TO
LEARN.

TENDING
THE GARDEN
AND
STUDYING
MAGIC
KEEPS ME
BUSY
ALL DAY.

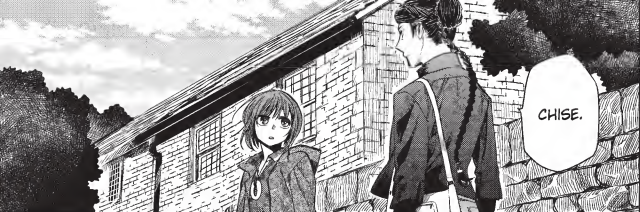


AND I
LIKE MY
LIFE THE
WAY IT IS.



THAT'S
MORE
THAN
ENOUGH
FOR ME.

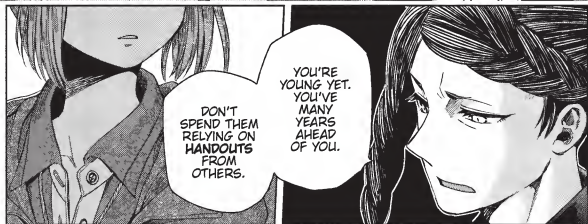
AS LONG
AS ELIAS IS
OKAY WITH
LETTING
ME LIVE
THERE...



CHISE.

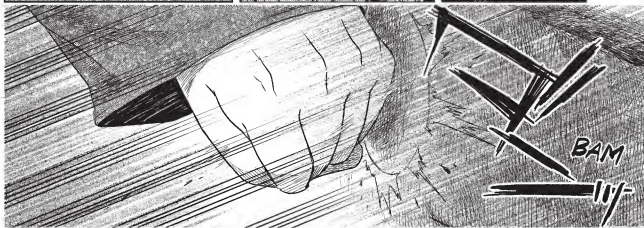


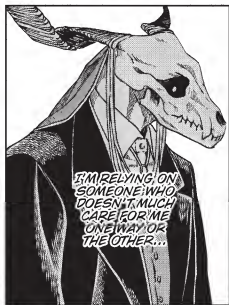
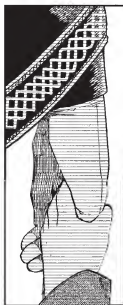
THAT
STRIKES ME
AS OVER-
DEPENDENCE,
PLAIN AND
SIMPLE.



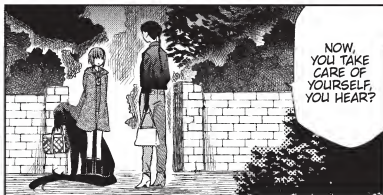
DON'T
SPEND THEM
RELYING ON
HANDOUTS
FROM
OTHERS.

YOU'RE
YOUNG YET.
YOU'VE
MANY
YEARS
AHEAD
OF YOU.





THAT
MEANS...
I'M
BEING
SELFISH.







YEAH?



Chise.



I
ALWAYS
...
USED
TO HATE
GOING
BACK TO
A HOUSE
WHEN
ALL THE
LIGHTS
WERE ON.



Senses...
Emotions...
Memories...



YEAH...

You and
I are both
beginning
to share
ourselves,
however
slowly.



the day
when it is
lifted comes
sooner
rather than
later.

Then I
hope...

If you
believe
that was
a curse...



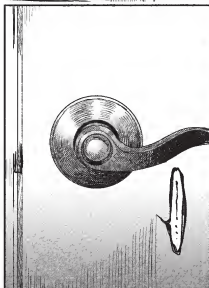
I'M
BACK!

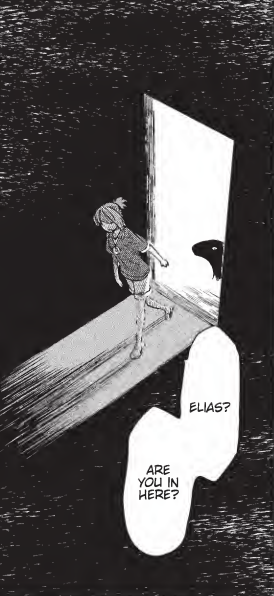
CREAK

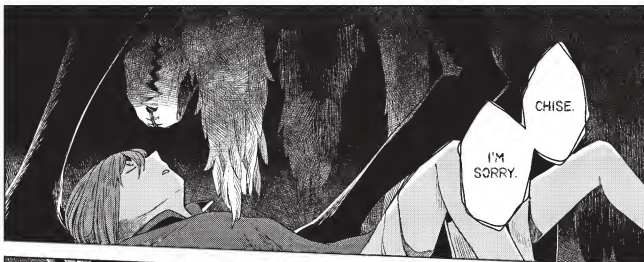
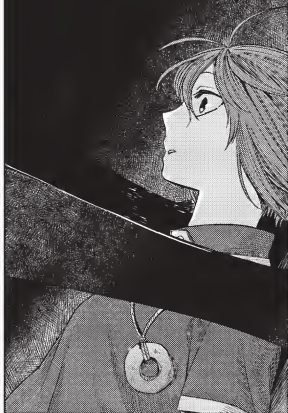


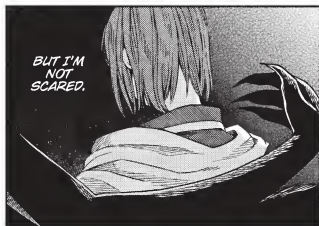
MM-
HMM.

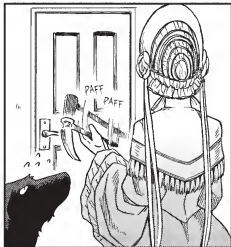
THANKS.

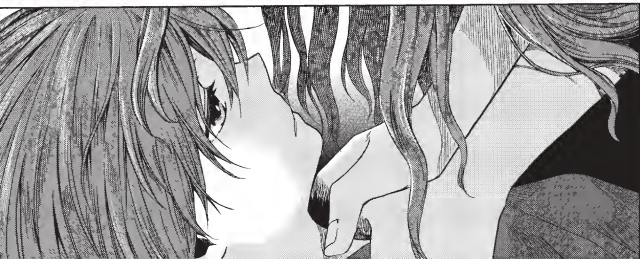
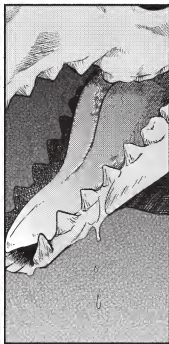


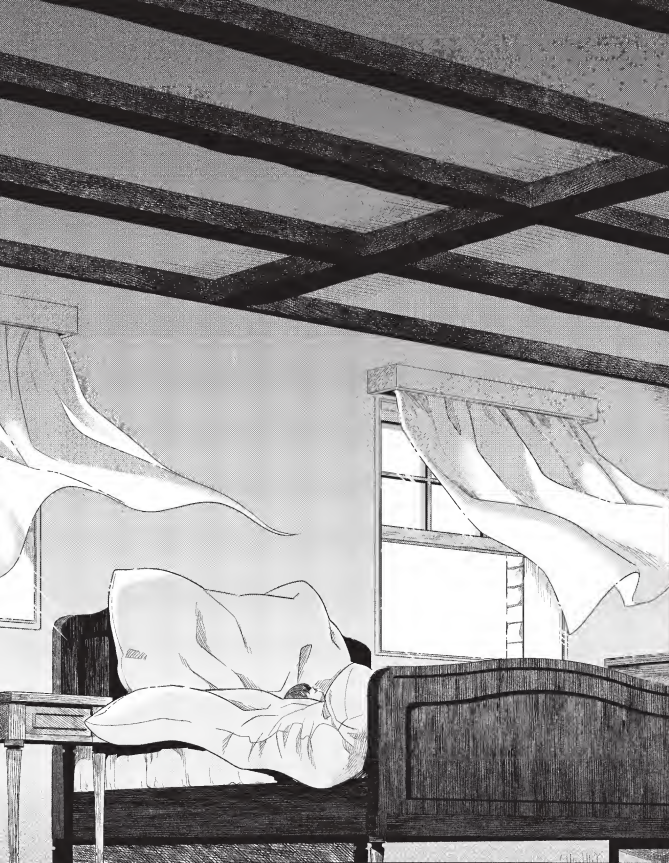




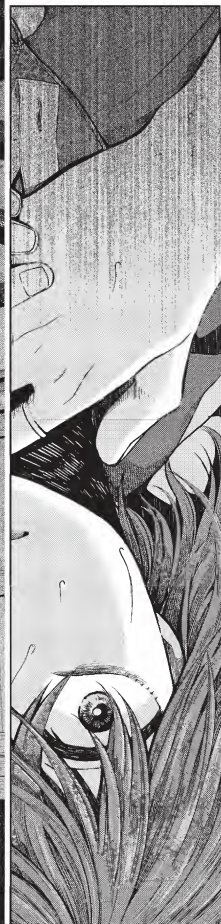






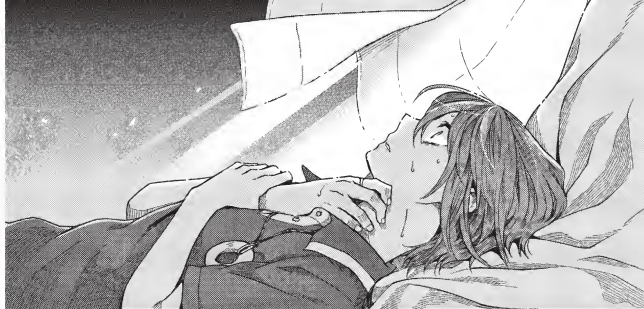


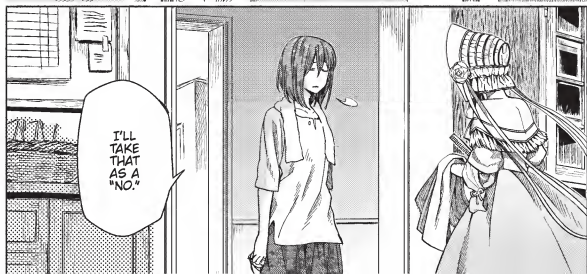
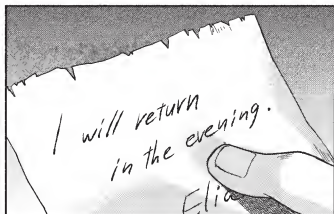
Chapter 14: Little pitchers have long ears.

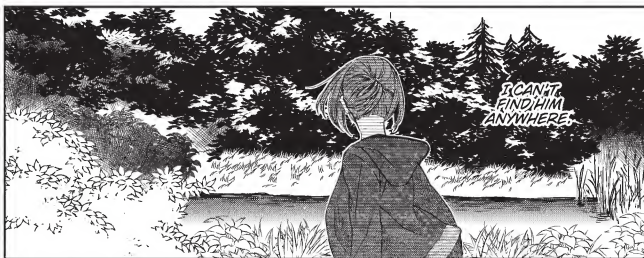
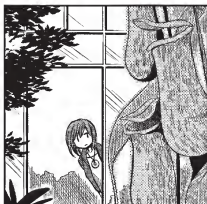


I WISH
I'D
NEVER
HAD
YOU.

I WISH
YOU'D
NEVER
BEEN
BORN!

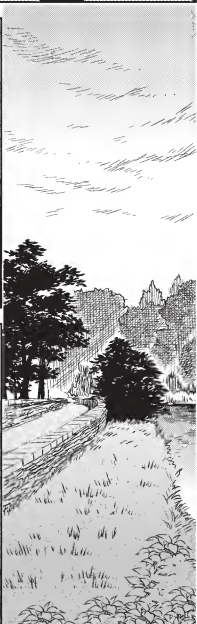










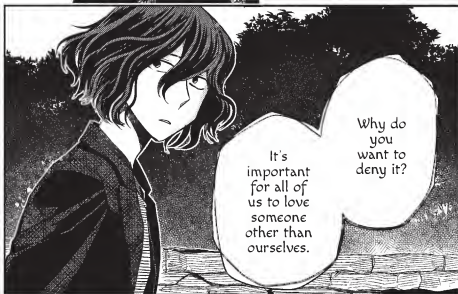




But more importantly, you worry about him.

You get anxious when he's gone.

HUH?!
WH-WHERE'D **THAT** COME FROM?
I-I MEAN, SURE, I LIKE HIM FINE, BUT--

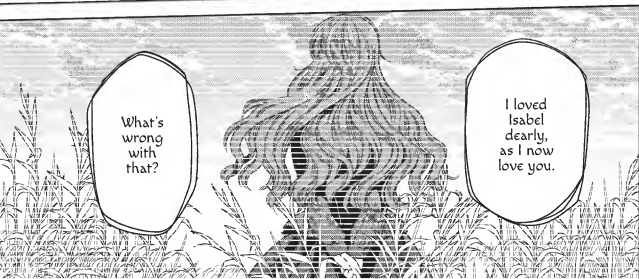


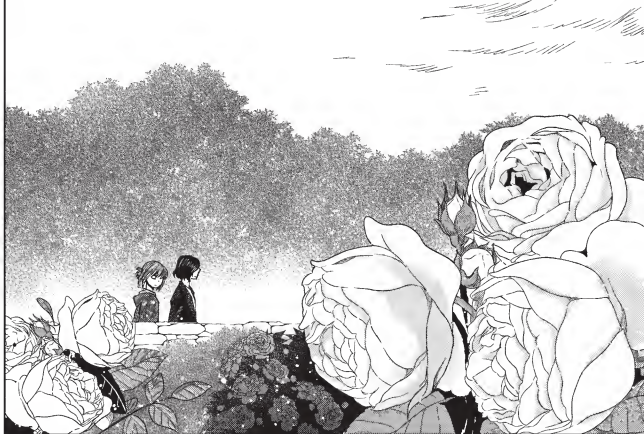
It's important for all of us to love someone other than ourselves.

Why do you want to deny it?



YEAH, BUT--







WE'RE OFF
THE BEATEN
PATH OUT
THIS WAY,
BUT IT'S
A LOVELY
AREA ONCE
YOU GET TO
KNOW IT.



OH,
DID
YOU?
HOW
NICE!

WE
MOVED
IN DOWN
THE WAY
RECENTLY.

LIM,
HELLO.

TMP



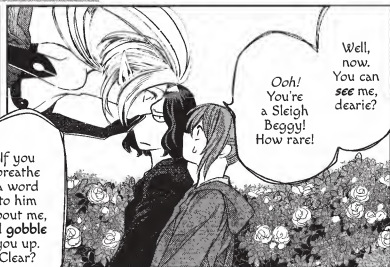
YES,
SIR. WE
WERE
LUCKY.

WAS
THERE A
HOUSE
FOR SALE
NEARBY?
I CAN'T
REMEMBER.

Oh yes
Both
horses
visible



If you
breathe
a word
to him
about me,
I'll gobble
you up.
Clear?



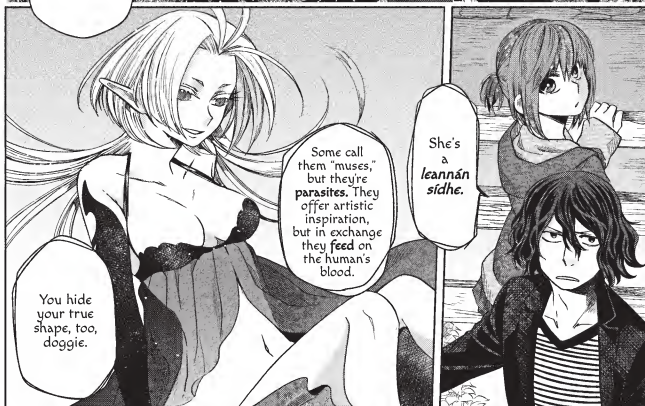
Ooh!
You're
a Sleigh
Beggy!
How rare!

Well,
now.
You can
see me,
dearie?



I
DARESAY
MY "LADIES"
HERE
WILL ENJOY
THE
ATTENTION.

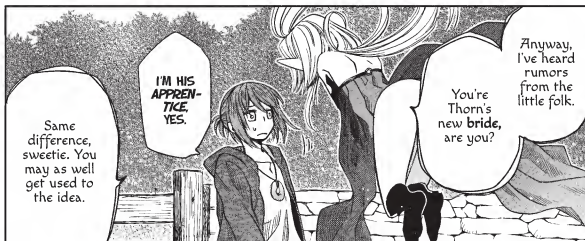
IF YOU LIKE
THE GARDEN,
DO FEEL FREE
TO LOOK
AROUND.



You hide
your true
shape, too,
doggie.

Some call
them "muses,"
but they're
parasites. They
offer artistic
inspiration,
but in exchange
they **feed** on
the human's
blood.

She's
a
leannán sídhe.



Same
difference,
sweetie. You
may as well
get used to
the idea.

I'M HIS
APPREN-
TICE,
YES.

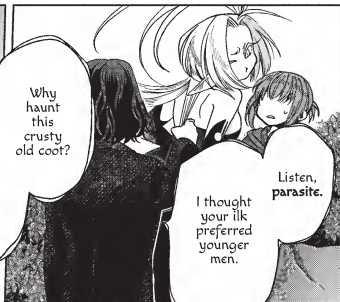
You're
Thorn's
new bride,
are you?

Anyway,
I've heard
rumors
from the
little folk.



If you drink his blood, he'll only last a sip or two.

Why haunt this crusty old coot?

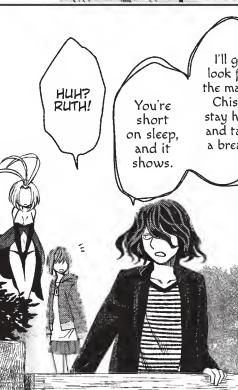


Listen, parasite.

I thought your ilk preferred younger men.



.....



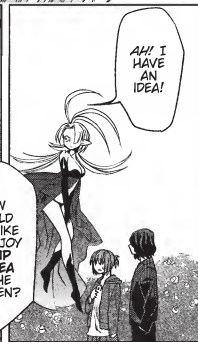
HUH? RUTH!

You're short on sleep, and it shows.

I'll go look for the mage. Chise, stay here and take a break.



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO ENJOY A CUP OF TEA IN THE GARDEN?

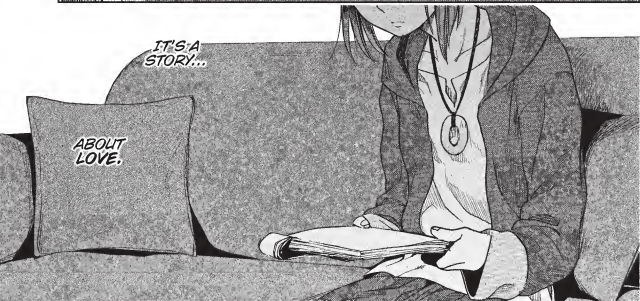
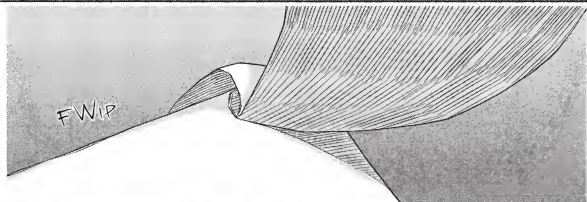


AH! I HAVE AN IDEA!







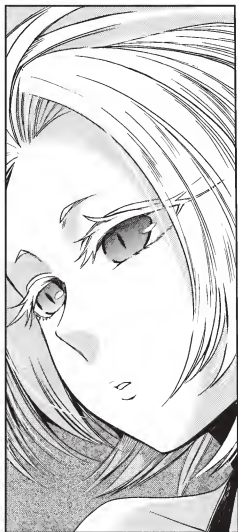
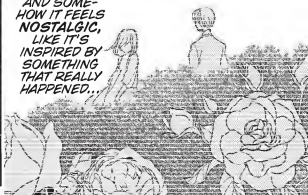


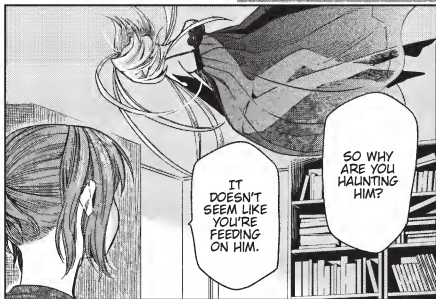
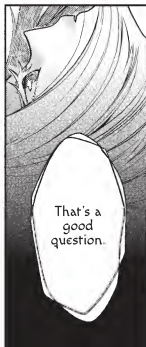
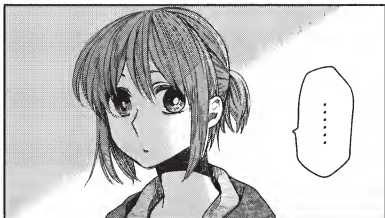
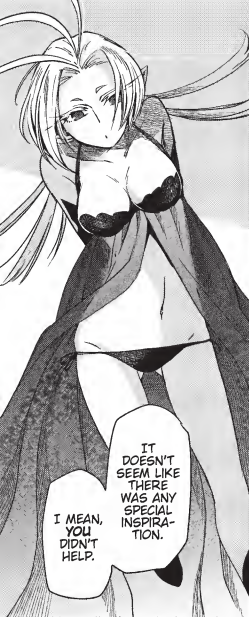


A BOY AND
A GIRL
MEET IN A
GARDEN
FULL OF
ROSES.

THERE'S
NOTHING
FLASHY
ABOUT IT.
IT'S A SWEET,
INNOCENT
ROMANCE.

AND SOME-
HOW IT FEELS
NOSTALGIC,
LIKE IT'S
INSPIRED BY
SOMETHING
THAT REALLY
HAPPENED...



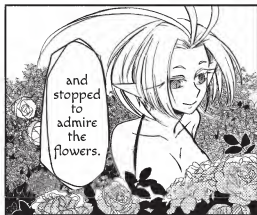




Years and
years ago...
I don't even
remember how
many winters
have passed
since then...



I found a
wonderful
rose
garden...



and
stopped
to
admire
the
flowers.

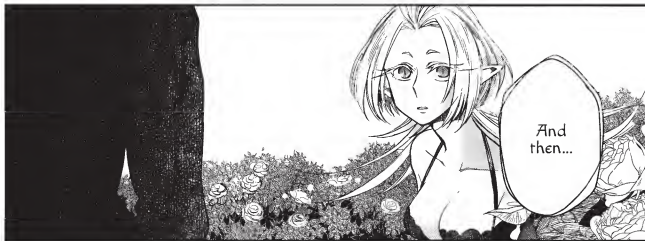


It was a
glorious
sunny
day.

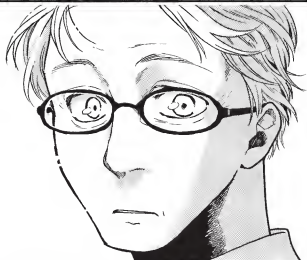
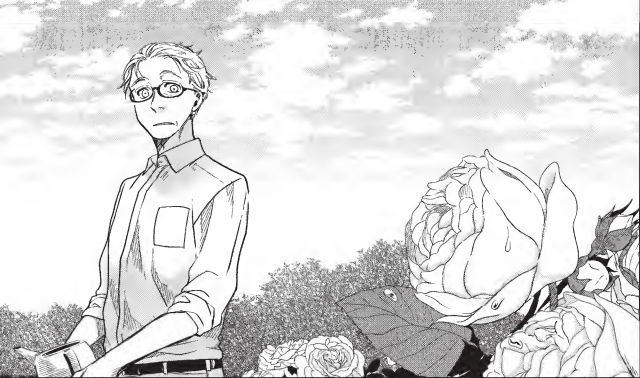


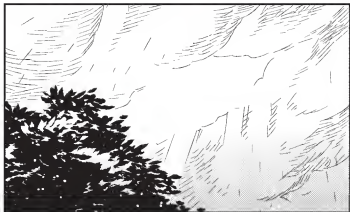
and was
searching
for a
new man.

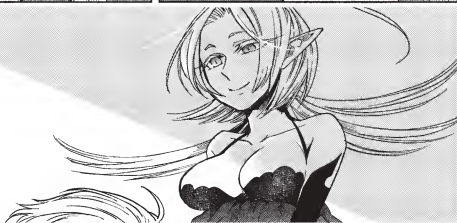
I'd just
finished
with
my last
lover...

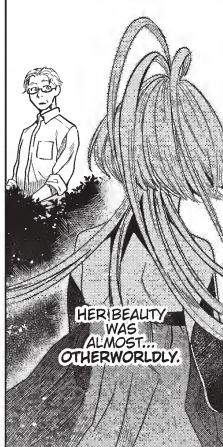


And
then...

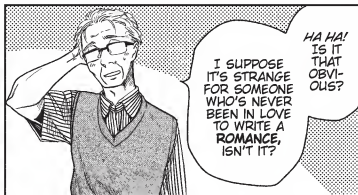






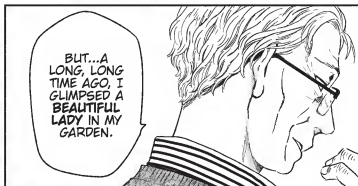


HER BEAUTY
WAS
ALMOST...
OTHERWORLDLY.

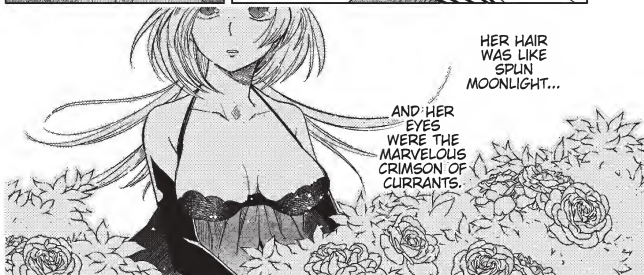


I SUPPOSE
IT'S STRANGE
FOR SOMEONE
WHO'S NEVER
BEEN IN LOVE
TO WRITE A
ROMANCE,
ISN'T IT?

HA HA!
IS IT
THAT
OBTU-
SUS?



BUT...A
LONG, LONG
TIME AGO, I
GLIMPSED A
BEAUTIFUL
LADY IN MY
GARDEN.



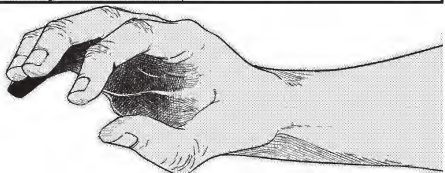
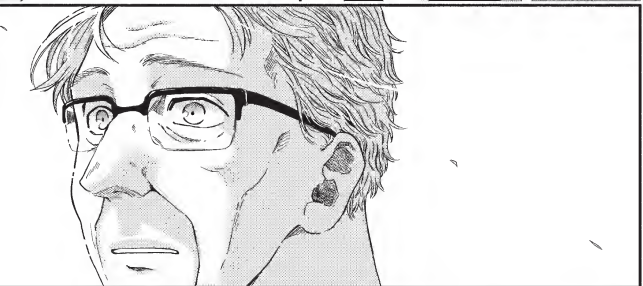
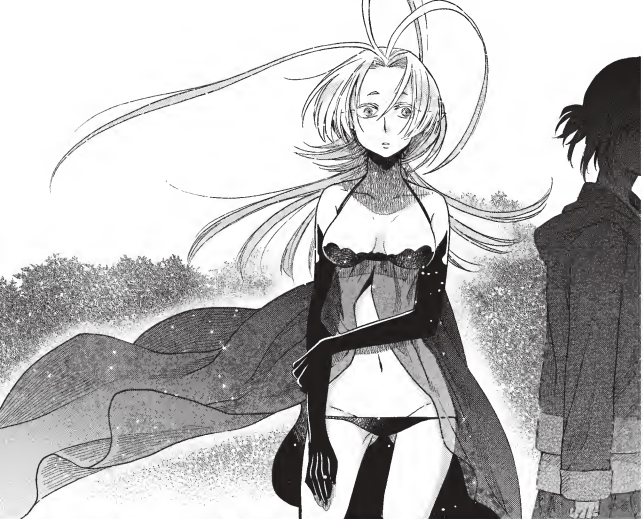
HER HAIR
WAS LIKE
SPUN
MOONLIGHT...

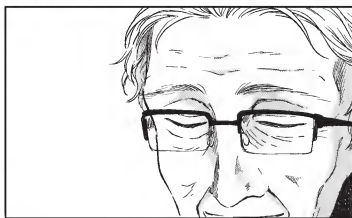
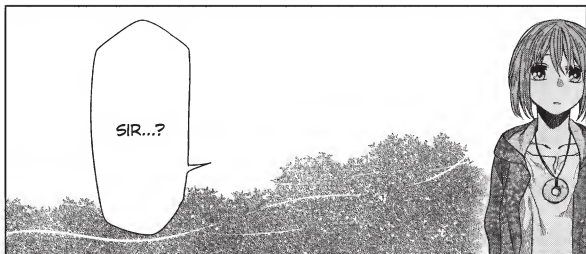
AND HER
EYES
WERE THE
MARVELOUS
CRIMSON OF
CURRANTS.

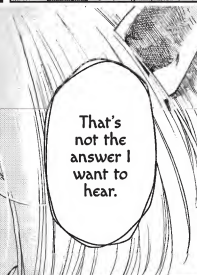
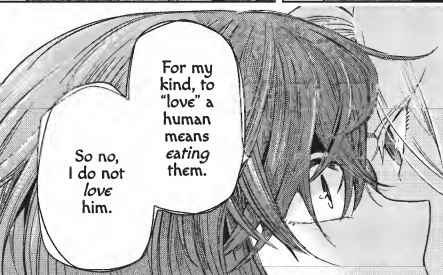
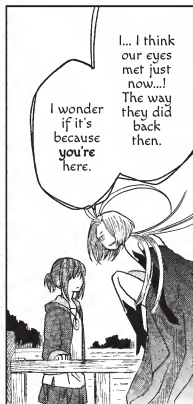


I
SUPPOSE
IT WAS
ALL IN MY
HEAD.

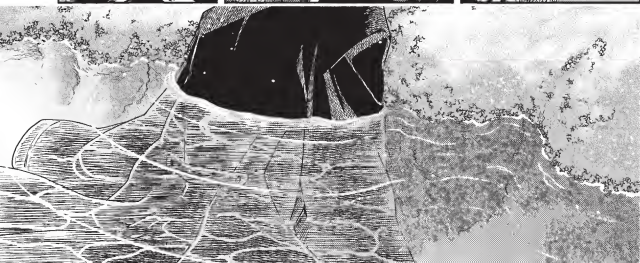
JUST
MY MIND
PLAYING
TRICKS
ON ME...
AND
YET...

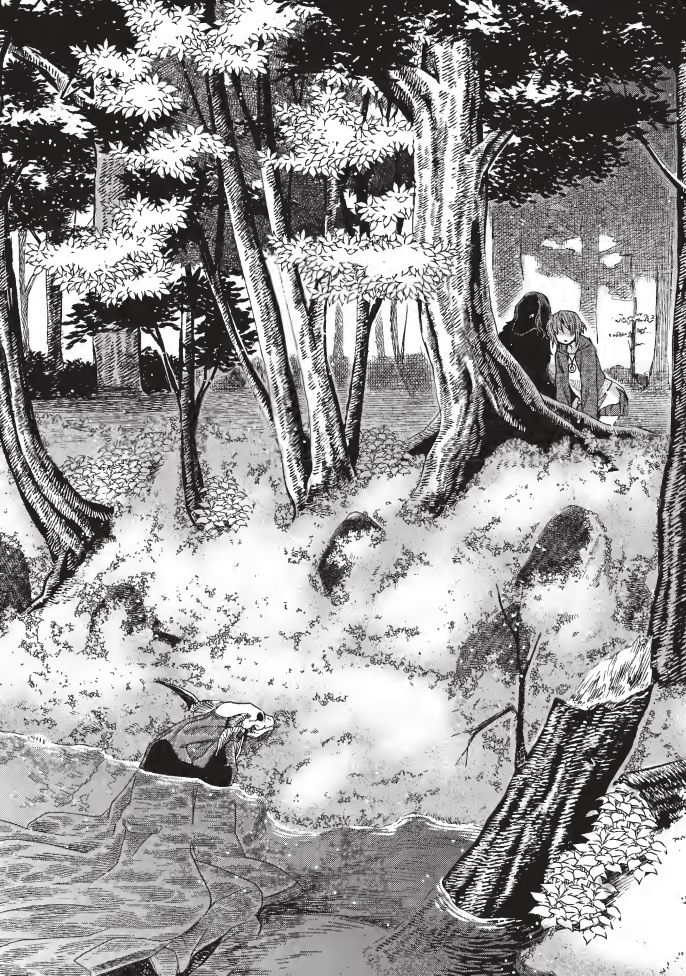










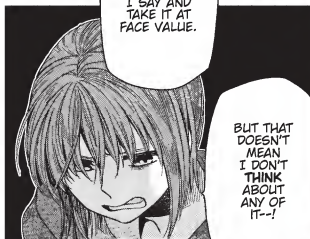






AND YET,
YOU'RE
ALWAYS SO
QUICK TO
UNDER-
STAND.

YOU ACCEPT
EVERYTHING
I SAY AND
TAKE IT AT
FACE VALUE.



BUT THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN
I DON'T
THINK
ABOUT
ANY OF
IT--!

WHY
IS THIS
HAPPENING
TO YOU?

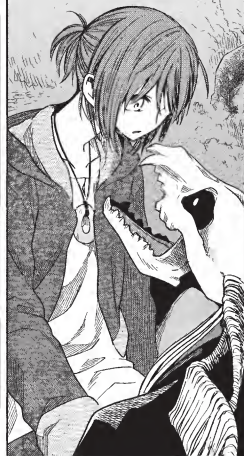
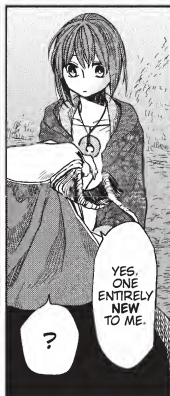
WHAT
KIND OF
CREATURE
ARE YOU?

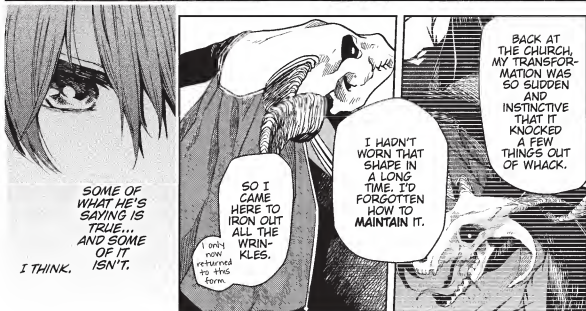
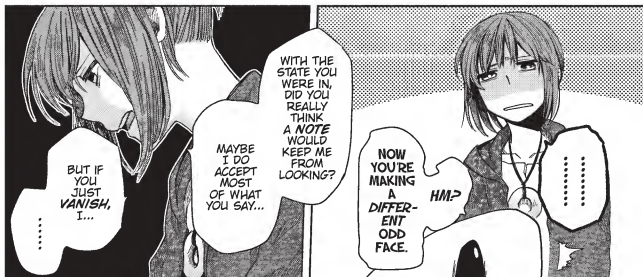
YOU
ALWAYS
DODGE MY
QUESTIONS!

I KNOW
I'M
SELFISH...
SELF-
CENTERED...

BUT IT
DOESN'T
MEAN
I DON'T
CARE,
I DON'T
WANT
TO STAY
IGNORANT
FOREVER!





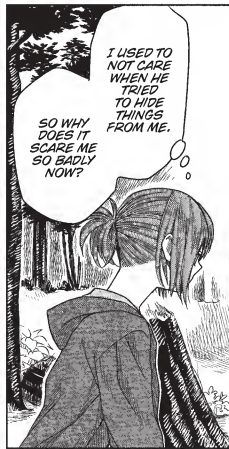




MIGHT I
ASK YOU
TO WAIT A
LITTLE
LONGER
BEFORE
ASKING?

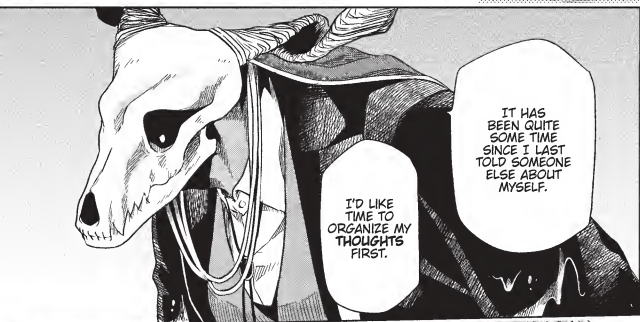
AS FOR
ANY OTHER
QUESTIONS
YOU MAY
HAVE
ABOUT
ME...

11/19 SLOSH



SO WHY
DOES IT
SCARE ME
SO BADLY
NOW?

I USED TO
NOT CARE
WHEN HE
TRIED
TO HIDE
THINGS
FROM ME.



I'D LIKE
TIME TO
ORGANIZE MY
THOUGHTS
FIRST.

IT HAS
BEEN QUITE
SOME TIME
SINCE I LAST
TOLD SOMEONE
ELSE ABOUT
MYSELF.





I'LL
WAIT.

OKAY.



THEN WHY
ARE YOU
WEARING
YET
ANOTHER
ODD
EXPRES-
SION?

ANGRY?
OF COURSE
NOT.



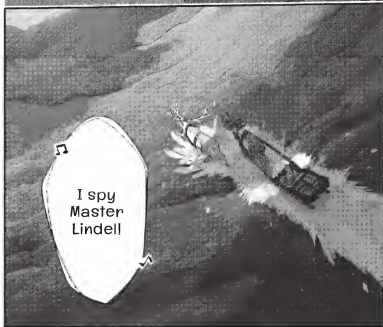
ARE
YOU
ANGRY
WITH
ME?



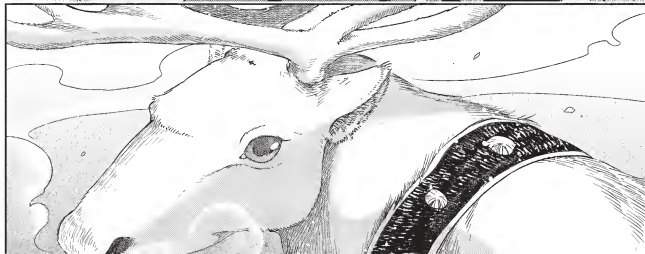
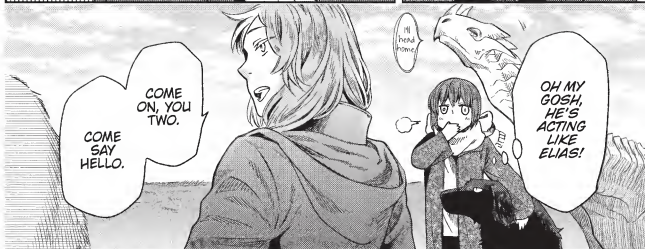
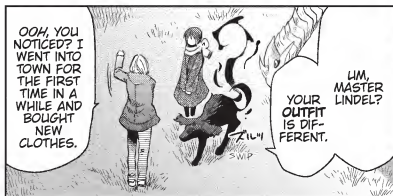




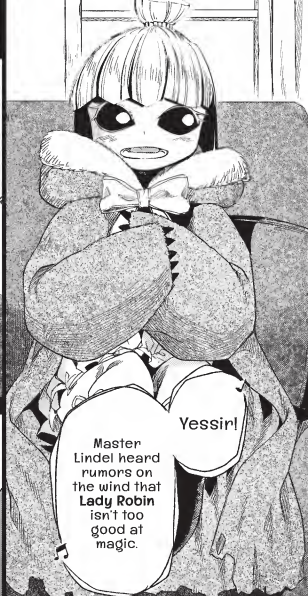
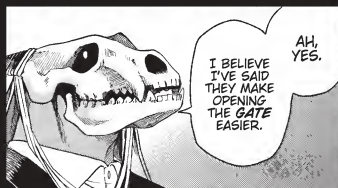












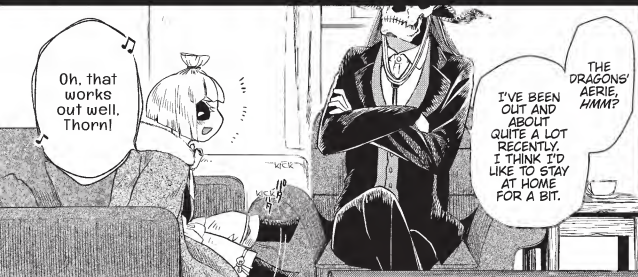


Right!
That's why
Master
Lindel wants
Lady Robin
to come to
the aerial



YES.
THEY HELP
CLARIFY
WHAT WE
WANT AND
SPECIFY
OUR GOALS
WITH
PRECISION.

SO...
LIKE AN
ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTOR'S
BATON?



Oh, that
works
out well.
Thorn!

I'VE BEEN
OUT AND
ABOUT
QUITE A LOT
RECENTLY.
I THINK I'D
LIKE TO STAY
AT HOME
FOR A BIT.

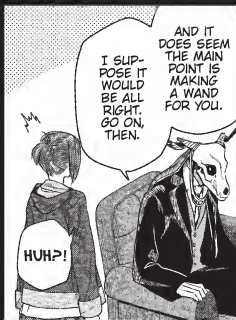
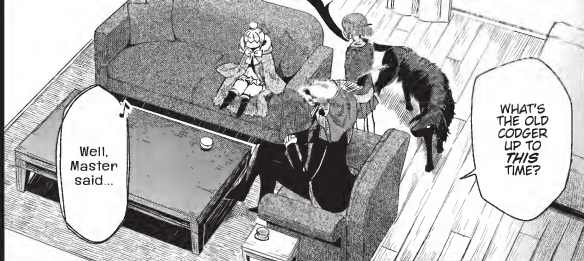
THE
DRAGONS'
AERIE,
HMMM?

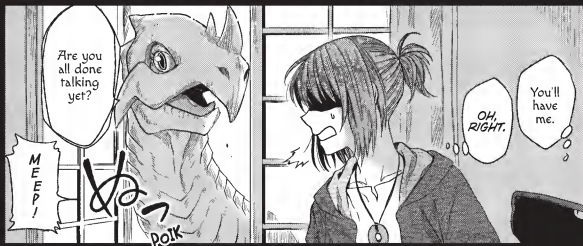


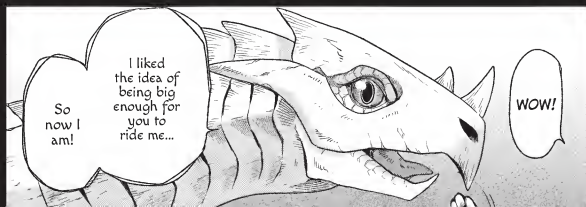
ONLY
CHISE?



Master
Lindel only
invited
Lady Robin!











ELIAS
WAS
ACTING
A LITTLE
FUNNY
BEFORE
I LEFT.
I HOPE
HE'S
OKAY.

RATL
RATL



CHISE?

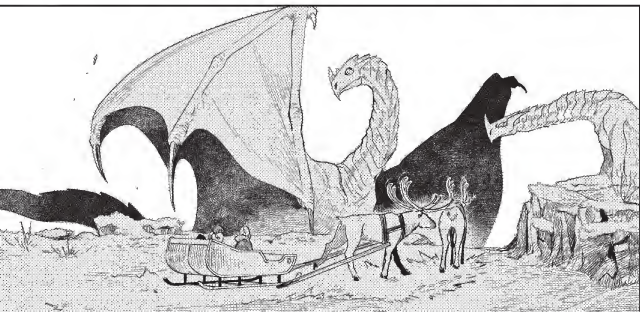
AND HE
WAS JUST
GETTING
BACK ON
HIS FEET,
TOO.
MAYBE I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE
COME...

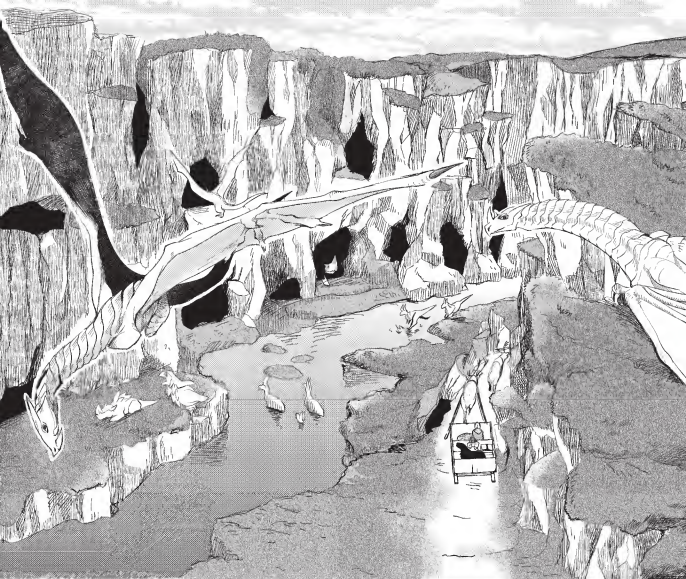
AH!
WE'RE
HERE.

GUESS
I AM
ACTING
THAT
WAY.

I HEAR
THAT IN THE
EAST, THEY
SOMETIMES
DESCRIBE
SOMEONE...
AS BEING
"MEEK
AS A
BORROWED
CAT."

Y-
YES?!





NO.
BACK THEN,
I WAS
MERELY
A POOR,
HUMBLE
NOMAD.

SO, YOU
DIDN'T
CREATE
THIS
PLACE?

CENTURIES
AGO, THE AERIE'S
FIRST CARETAKER
GATHERED THE
LAST REMAINING
DRAGONS
SCATTERED
AROUND THE
WORLD AND
BROUGHT
THEM HERE.

THIS IS A
NURSERY AND
A HAVEN FOR
DRAGONS,
BUILT IN ONE
OF THE MANY
DEEP RIFTS--
OR "GJA"--IN
ICELAND.

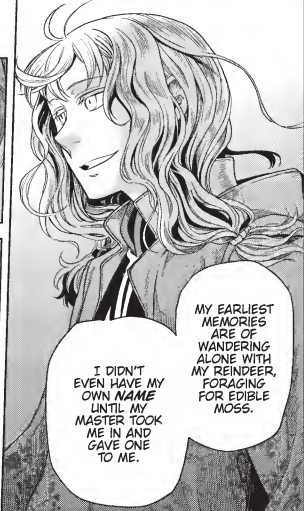


YOUR
LAST VISIT
WAS TOO
BRIEF
TO TELL
YOU
MUCH.



LOOK
THERE.

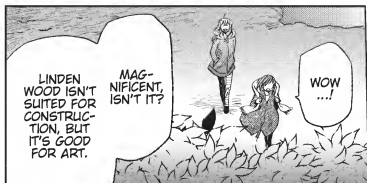
THAT'S
NEVIN'S
TREE.

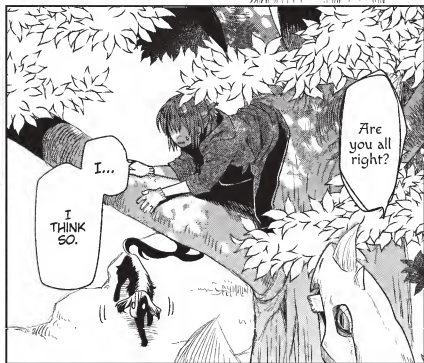
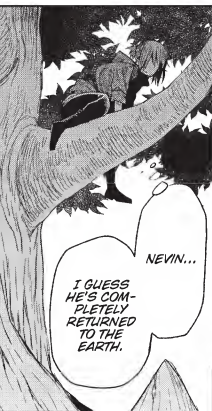
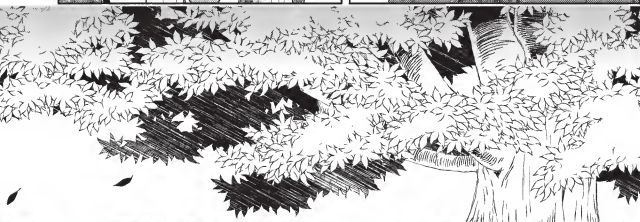


I DIDN'T
EVEN HAVE MY
OWN NAME
UNTIL MY
MASTER TOOK
ME IN AND
GAVE ONE
TO ME.

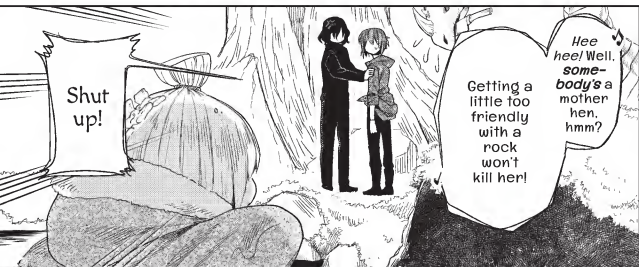
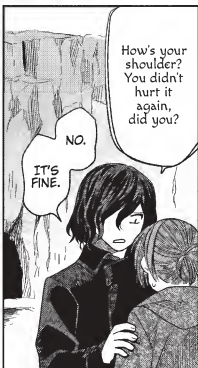
MY EARLIEST
MEMORIES
ARE OF
WANDERING
ALONE WITH
MY REINDEER,
FORAGING
FOR EDIBLE
MOSS.



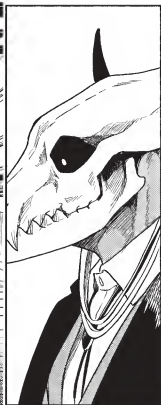










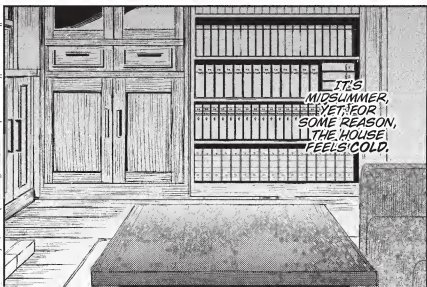


WHO
WOULD
HAVE
THOUGHT?
SHE
DOESN'T
SPEAK
MUCH.

IT'S
TERRIBLY
QUIET
TODAY.



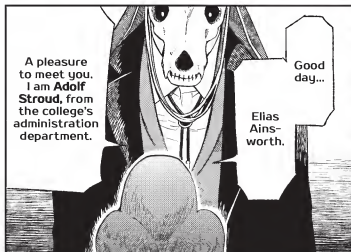
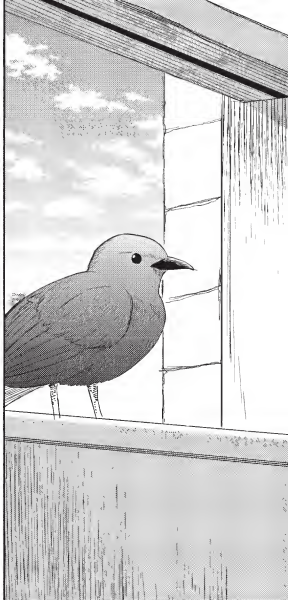
PERHAPS
I SHOULD
LAY A FIRE
IN THE
HEARTH.



IT'S
MIDSUMMER,
YET FOR
SOME REASON,
THE HOUSE
FEELS COLD.



HMM?
A
BIRD?



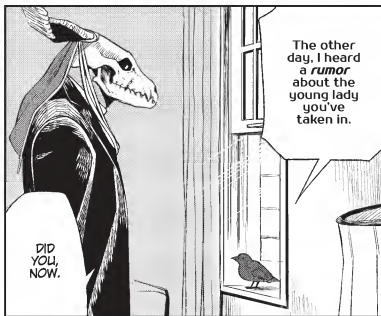
A pleasure
to meet you.
I am **Adolf
Stroud**, from
the college's
administration
department.

Good
day...

Elias
Ains-
worth.

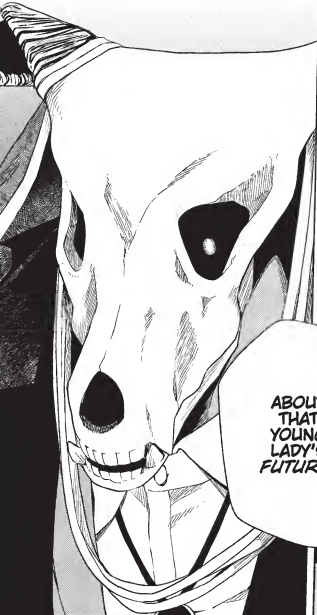


Let
me be
blunt.



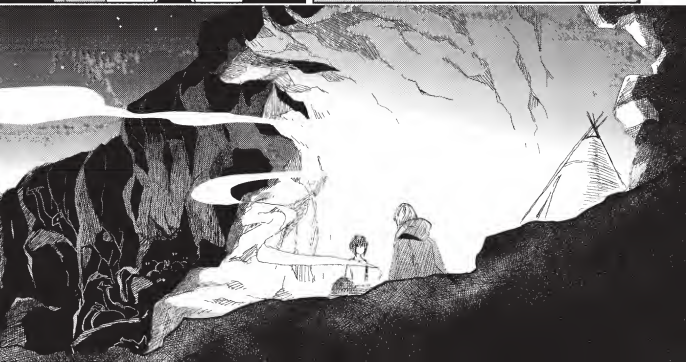
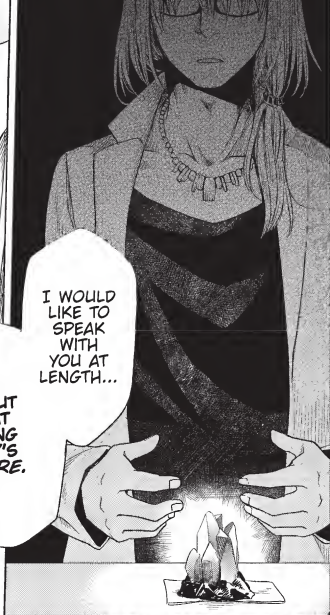
The other
day, I heard
a *rumor*
about the
young lady
you've
taken in.

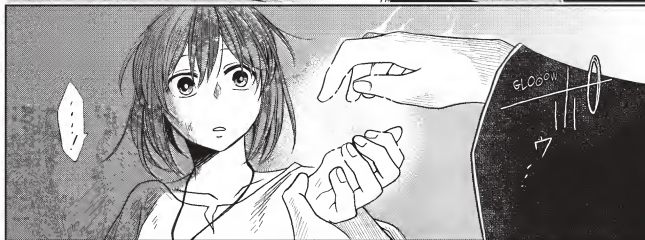
DID
YOU,
NOW.



ABOUT
THAT
YOUNG
LADY'S
FUTURE.

I WOULD
LIKE TO
SPEAK
WITH
YOU AT
LENGTH...







SWFF...

MY
SKIN'S
HEALING
UP!



SO FEW
WITH THE
GIFT HAVE
BEEN
BORN IN
RECENT
CENTURIES.

LONG
AGO,
THERE
WERE
MANY
LIKE ME,
BUT...



DO ALL
MAGES
LIVE SUCH
LONG
LIVES...?

HOW OLD
ARE YOU,
MASTER
LINDEL?



I HAVE
WHAT ARE
CALLED
"HEALING
HANDS."

I CAN
HEAL ANY
WOUND,
PROVIDED
IT'S NOT
MORTAL.



So *that's*
why your church
doggie
made such
a fuss
earlier!

Oh!



IT'S MY
FAULT
FOR NOT
ASKING
HIM. I'M
SORRY!



THAT
GOOD-
FOR-
NOTHING
BONE-
HEAD!

HE HADN'T
EXPLAINED
A SINGLE
THING TO
YOU, HAS
HE?! WHY,
THAT--

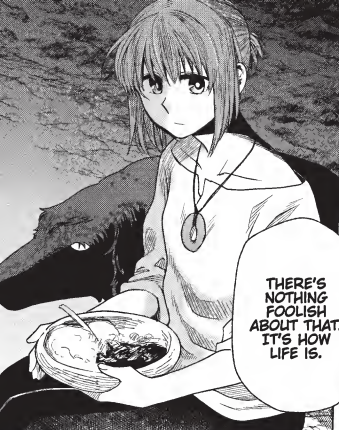
HUH?!
NO,
NO...!



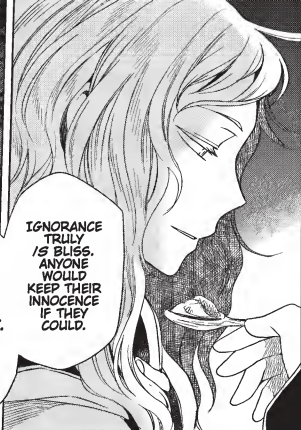
TO BE
HONEST,
I CALLED
YOU HERE
BECAUSE I'M
CONCERNED
FOR YOU.



I'M NOT
UPSET
AT YOU,
CHISE.



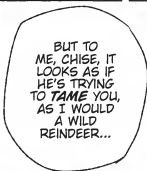
THERE'S NOTHING FOOLISH ABOUT THAT. IT'S HOW LIFE IS.



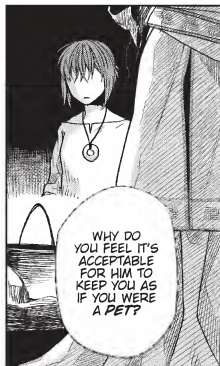
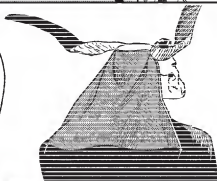
IGNORANCE TRULY IS BLISS. ANYONE WOULD KEEP THEIR INNOCENCE IF THEY COULD.



AND YOU ARE ALLOWING HIM TO DO IT.



BUT TO ME, CHISE, IT LOOKS AS IF HE'S TRYING TO *TAME* YOU, AS I WOULD A WILD REINDEER...



WHY DO YOU FEEL IT'S ACCEPTABLE FOR HIM TO KEEP YOU AS IF YOU WERE A PET?



BUT YOU MUSTN'T.



A PERSON WHO CEASES TO THINK FOR HERSELF IS NO LONGER TRULY A PERSON.



MY
MOTHER
TOLD ME
THAT SHE
WISHED
SHE'D
NEVER
HAD ME.

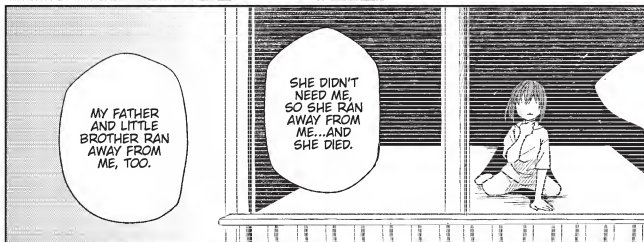
WHEN
I WAS
LITTLE...

KRAKL



KRAKL
KRAKL...

WHEN
...



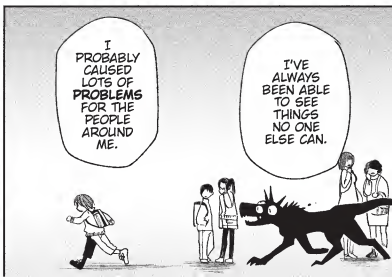
MY FATHER
AND LITTLE
BROTHER RAN
AWAY FROM
ME, TOO.

SHE DIDN'T
NEED ME,
SO SHE RAN
AWAY FROM
ME...AND
SHE DIED.



SO, NO
ONE...

HAS
EVER
WANTED
ME.



I
PROBABLY
CAUSED
LOTS OF
PROBLEMS
FOR THE
PEOPLE
AROUND
ME.

I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN ABLE
TO SEE
THINGS
NO ONE
ELSE CAN.



NO ONE
BUT
ELIAS.

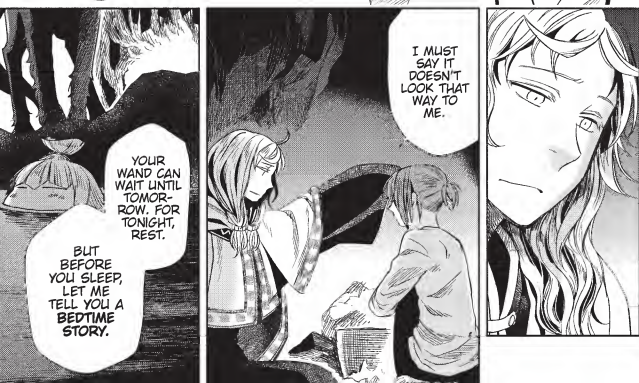
HE TOOK
ME IN
WHEN NO
ONE ELSE
WOULD.



THAT'S
WHY...

I WANT
TO MAKE
MYSELF
THE KIND
OF PERSON
HE DOESN'T
MIND HAVING
AROUND.

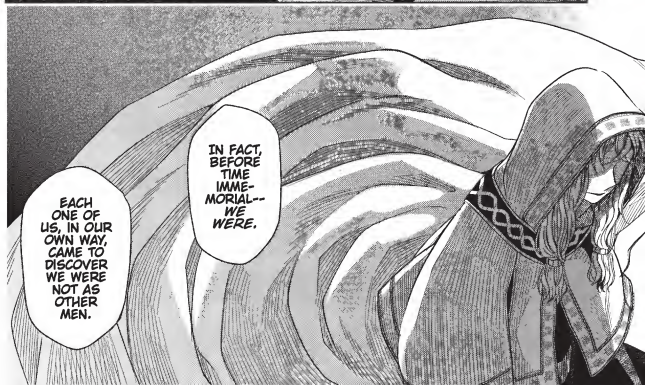
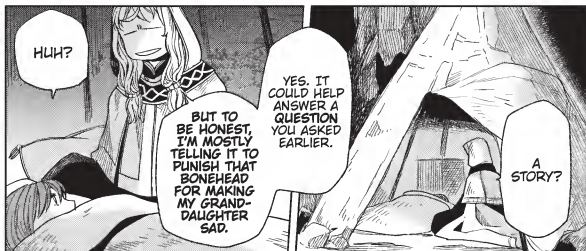
I WON'T
PRY WHEN
HE DOESN'T
VOLUNTEER
INFORMA-
TION. I DON'T
BRING UP
SUBJECTS
HE'D RATHER
AVOID.



I MUST
SAY IT
DOESN'T
LOOK THAT
WAY TO
ME.

YOUR
WAND CAN
WAIT UNTIL
TOMOR-
ROW. FOR
TONIGHT,
REST.

BUT
BEFORE
YOU SLEEP,
LET ME
TELL YOU A
BEDTIME
STORY.

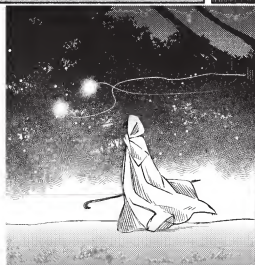


AND FOR
SOME
REASON,
SOME OF
US LIVED
FAR, FAR
LONGER THAN
A HUMAN'S
NORMAL
LIFESPAN.



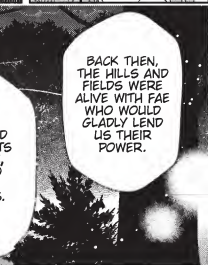
SOME OF
US COULD
PERFORM
MIRACLES
BEYOND
HUMAN
KEN.

SOME OF
US COULD
SEE THE
SPIRITS AND
THE FAE.



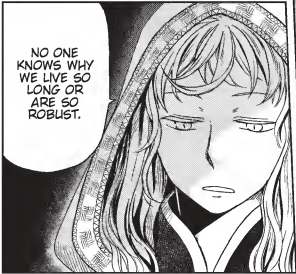
WE USED
OUR GIFTS
TO LIVE,
AND TO
HELP
OTHERS.

BACK THEN,
THE HILLS AND
FIELDS WERE
ALIVE WITH FAE
WHO WOULD
GLADLY LEND
US THEIR
POWER.



WE GAINED
KNOWLEDGE
AT THE
KNEES OF
THOSE WHO
WERE OLDER
AND WISER
THAN US.





NO ONE
KNOWS WHY
WE LIVE SO
LONG OR
ARE SO
ROBUST.

AS OUR
TECHNIQUES
AND
KNOWLEDGE
ADDED UP,
CENTURY
AFTER
CENTURY...

IT CAME
TO BE
CALLED
"MAGIC."



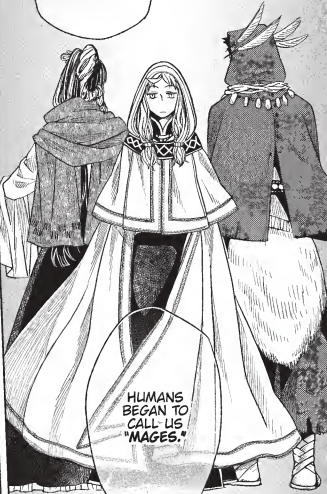
WHILE
OTHERS,
WHO CHOSE
TO INCREASE
THEIR POWER
BY MINGLING
WITH THE FAE,
HAVE BECOME
SOMETHING
MORE.

PERHAPS
SOME OF US
WERE NEVER
ENTIRELY
HUMAN...



THERE ARE
FEWER OF US
NOW THAN
THERE ONCE
WERE, BUT WE
REMAIN HALE
AND HEALTHY
AS ALWAYS.

SO,
MAYBE MY
SHOULDER
STOPPED
HURTING
BECAUSE...



HUMANS
BEGAN TO
CALL US
"MAGES."



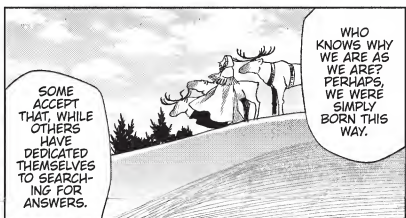
BUT
OTHERS
WORK
FEVERISHLY
TO KEEP
DEATH EVEN
FURTHER
AT BAY.

SOME OF
US HAVE
GROWN
WEARY OF
LIFE...

WE ARE
SCATTERED
ACROSS THE
GLOBE,
WANDERING
AMONG
HUMANS AND
FAE, LENDING
A HELPING
HAND
TO ALL.



SEVERAL
OF OUR
KIND HAVE
LOST THEM-
SELVES
IN THAT
SEARCH.



SOME
ACCEPT
THAT, WHILE
OTHERS
HAVE
DEDICATED
THEMSELVES
TO SEARCH-
ING FOR
ANSWERS.

WHO
KNOWS WHY
WE ARE AS
WE ARE?
PERHAPS,
WE WERE
SIMPLY
BORN THIS
WAY.



WHAT
MADE US
LIKE THIS?



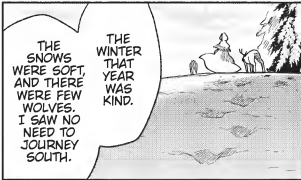
WERE WE
GIVEN THESE
EXTRAORDI-
NARY LIVES
IN ORDER TO
FULFILL SOME
PURPOSE?



FOR A LONG
TIME, I WANTED
NOTHING TO
DO WITH SUCH
THINGS. I
REMAINED WITH
MY HERD AND MY
NOMADIC WAYS.

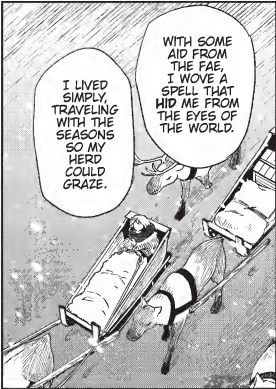


EVEN AFTER
PARTING FROM
MY MASTER, I
FOUND IT HARD
TO GIVE UP MY
REINDEER.



THE
SNOWS
WERE SOFT,
AND THERE
WERE FEW
WOLVES.
I SAW NO
NEED TO
JOURNEY
SOUTH.

THE
WINTER
THAT
YEAR
WAS
KIND.



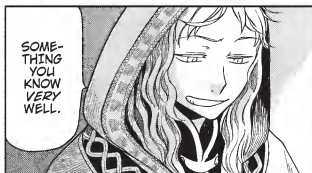
I LIVED
SIMPLY,
TRAVELING
WITH THE
SEASONS
SO MY
HERD
COULD
GRAZE.

WITH SOME
AID FROM
THE FAE,
I WOVE A
SPELL THAT
HID ME FROM
THE EYES OF
THE WORLD.



AND ONE
NIGHT,
WOLVES
WERE ABOUT.
I STAYED
AWAKE TO
KEEP WATCH.

I THOUGHT
I'D SPEND
THAT WINTER
ALONE,
AS I HAD
COUNTLESS
OTHERS.





IT
EMERGED
...

LOOKING
LIKE A
FRAGMENT
OF NIGHT
INCARNATE.

To be continued...

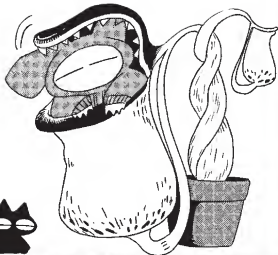
The
Ancient
Magus' Bride

The
Ancient
Magus' Bride

Something That
Could Be Called an
AFTERWORD

THIS IS MY
FIRST SERIES
TO REACH
VOLUME 3. I
DON'T KNOW
IF I'M MORE
HAPPY OR
NERVOUS...

THANK YOU
VERY MUCH
FOR PICKING
UP THE THIRD
VOLUME OF
THE
ANCIENT
MAGUS'
BRIDE!



YOU SEE, IN
THIS WORLD,
"WITCHES"
ARE A LITTLE
DIFFERENT
FROM "MAGES."

Well,
that
was
silly of
you.



THAT
WAS AN
ERROR.
SHE
SHOULD
HAVE
CALLED
HERSELF
A MAGE.

BACK IN
VOLUME 1,
CHAPTER 2,
ANGELICA
INTRODUCES
HERSELF AS
A WITCH.

AND TALK
ABOUT THE
MAGUS'
WORLD, AND
GO OVER
SOME OF
THE RECENT
CHANGES
IN THE
TANKOUBON
REPRINTS.

FOR
TODAY, I
THINK I'LL
ANSWER
SOME
READER
QUESTIONS...

So many
changes...

Q. IF THIS
STORY IS
SET IN
ENGLAND,
WHAT
LANGUAGE
IS CHISE
SPEAKING?

LET'S MOVE
ON TO SOME
READER
QUESTIONS!

I like the
long-skirted
traditional
maid
dresses.

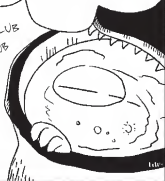
I'M
REALLY
SORRY ABOUT IT
ALL!

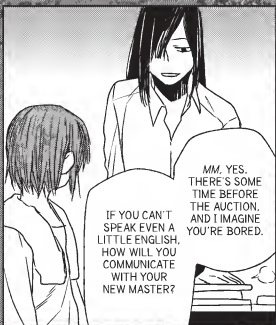
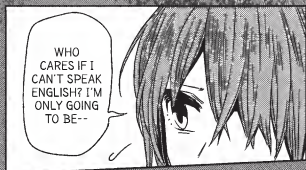
AND
SOME
DETAILS
THAT
WERE
CHANGED.

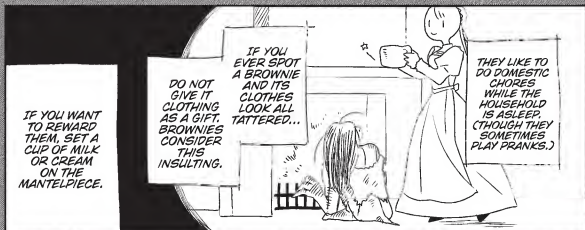
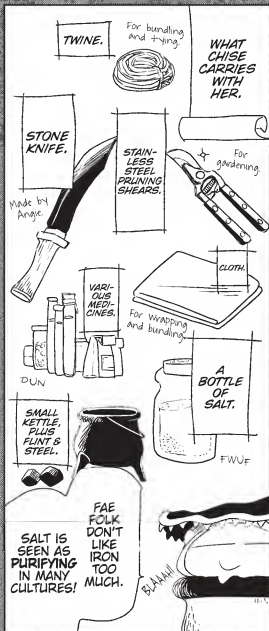
THERE
WERE OTHER
SCENES
THAT
NEEDED
FLESHING
OUT...

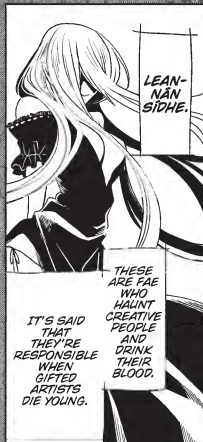
THAT'S
WHAT
HAPPENS
TO SLOW
WORLD-
BUILD-
ERS!

BLUE
BLUE









LEAN-NÂN
SIDHE.

IT'S SAID
THAT
THEY'RE
RESPONSIBLE
WHEN
GIFTED
ARTISTS
DIE YOUNG.

THESE
ARE FAE
WHO
HAUNT
CREATIVE
PEOPLE
AND
DRINK
THEIR
BLOOD.

A TYPE OF
FAE DOG,
BLACK
DOGS
HAUNT
CHURCHES
AND
GRAVE-
YARDS.



THESE BLACK
DOGS.
ARE WELL
KNOWN
THANKS
TO A
CERTAIN
STORY.

BLACK
DOGS ARE
DIFFERENT
FROM HELL-
HOUNDS,
WHICH ARE
PACKS OF
DEMONIC DOGS
WHO WANDER
THE MOORS
LOOKING FOR
PEOPLE
TO KILL.



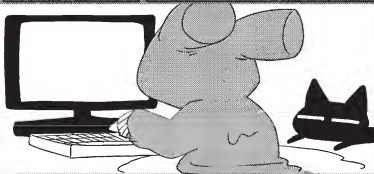
Don't
mess
with it,
though.
He'll
kill
you.

BLACK DOGS
CAN BE
HARBINGERS
OF DEATH, BUT
SOMETIMES
THEY LOOK
LIKE ANY
OTHER DOG
ASLEEP BY
THE CHURCH
FIREPLACE.

SOMETIMES
THEY'RE THE
GHOST OF A
DOG BURIED
IN THE
GRAVEYARD
FOR THE
EXPRESS
PURPOSE OF
HAVING THEM
GUARD IT.

AND LAST
BUT NOT
LEAST,
A LITTLE
STORY FROM
ONE OF MY
FRIENDS.

KLACK
KLACK



SIX
MONTHS
LATER,
WE WERE
TALKING
ONLINE...

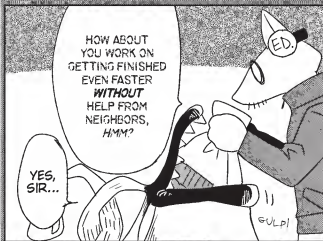
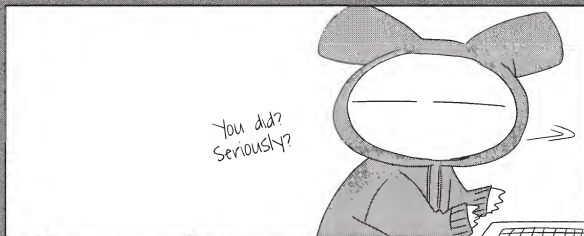
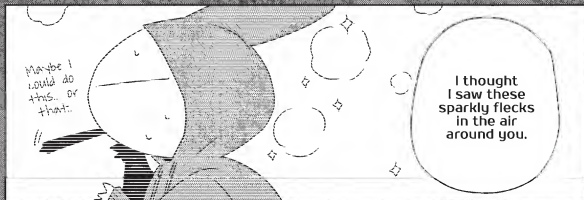
Y'know,
when I
watched
you work
that one
time...

Via Twitter...



OVER THE
SUMMER,
SOME OF
MY FRIENDS
CAME
TO VISIT.

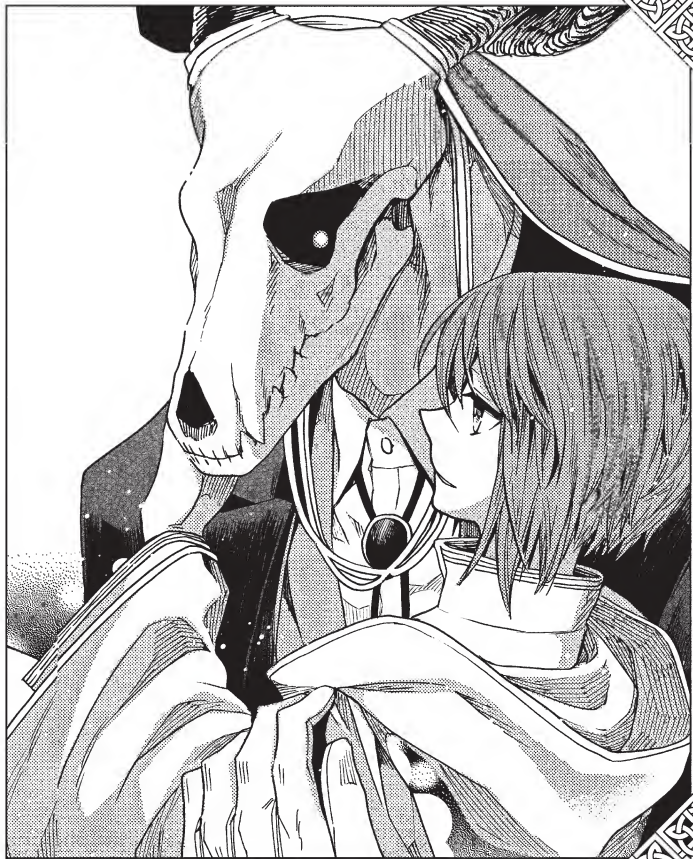




“Echos,” the mage Lindel,
tells Chise of days long ago--
and of fragments of Elias’ past.

Summoned by Lindel, Chise returns to the
dragons’ aerie and sees the giant tree now
standing where an old dragon once lay.
Climbing its branches to find wood for her
wand, Chise’s thoughts begin to wander.
And later that evening, Lindel begins
to tell her a story about mages,
and of days long past...

The Ancient Magus’ Bride
Volume 4
Coming Soon!



Silky's Diary

FOUR FACTS ABOUT ME



I DO
PLAY THE
OCCASIONAL
PRANK.
PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME.

Tee
hee
hee...

I NEVER
ACCEPT
ANY GIFTS
OR TOKENS
OF GRATI-
TUDE.

NO!

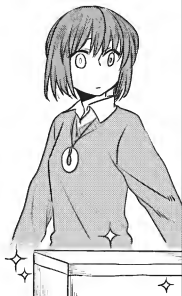


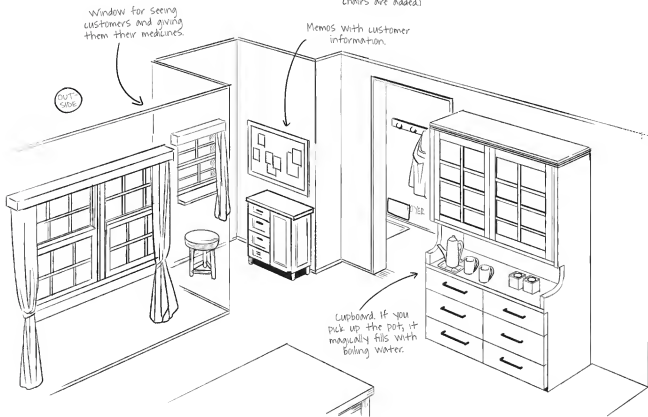
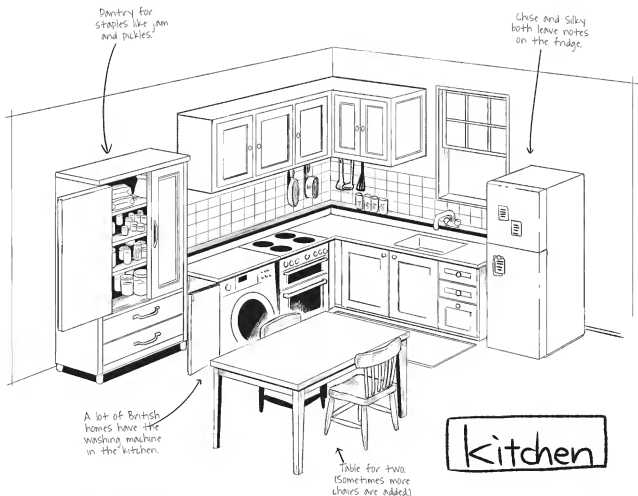
SIP
SIP

ANY
CREAM LEFT
UPON THE
MANTELPiece
IS INTENDED
FOR ME.



I MAKE
CERTAIN
TO BE
SEEN AS
RARELY AS
POSSIBLE.





SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

The Ancient Magus' Bride

VOLUME 3

story and art by KORE YAMAZAKI

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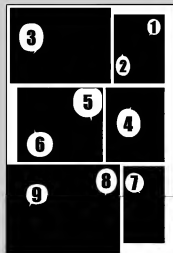
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from **right to left**, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



An Ancient Evil

Chise has come face to face with the person responsible for the brutal killings at a nearby churchyard—and to her shock, it's someone she recognizes from her visions of the tragedy at Ulthar! Appalled by the realization that the alchemist who wrought such horrors is still up to his old tricks, Chise must act to stop him. But in order to control her dangerous powers as a sleigh beggy, she'll need all the help she can get.



Rated: TEEN

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